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TITLE: ISRAEL: HUMAN RIGHTS

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Rog		9/6	Rog		28/8	PY	48 41	26/11
PY	20	10/6	LW. (Eas	3	29/8	PY	51 53	26/
Rog		23/6	New Dept.		28/9.	Rog		16/12
PY	24,25	25/6	Mr. Aspinall	37	29/9	PY	58	17/12
LA.	25	26/6	Mr Yarnold	37	9/9	Rog		
PY	25	1/7	Rog		25/9			
PY.	25 26	2/7	PY	40.	27/9			
LVA	26	3/7	Rog		1/10			
U.N (Pol)	26	4/7	PY	41	2/10.			
" Mr Yarnold	26	6/7	Rog		5/10			
Rog Mr C		8/7	PY	42 43.	8/10			
LVA		10/7	PY.	44.	1/.			
Rog	26/7	10/7	Rog		17/10			
P.Y.			Mr. Mr. Wilberforce					
Rog.			Mr. Narron.		21/10			
PY.	29	1/7	LVA.	46	23/10			
Rog.			Mr. Topp.	46	27/4			

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CONFIDENTIAL

YEAR STAMP 1980

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minute 18/2 (1)
Mr Hodgson - Pl. prepare me. J.P.T. 17/2.

Mr. Tripp

Mr. Marks (Secretary of the Board of Deputies) 'phoned today to say, inter alia, that the American delegation would raise the issue of the Iraqi Jews at the Commission and that he Mr. Maitland (Mr Marks) will be going to Geneva and will contact Sir S. Hoare.

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED IN CHANCERY
13 FEB 1969
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NER 18/6

A.D. Brighty 14/II

Iraqi Jews and the Commission on Human Rights

During the conversation between the Secretary of State and a delegation of the Board of Deputies of British Jews on 12 February, Sir Barnett Janner raised the question of British support for a possible debate during the forthcoming session of the Commission on Human Rights (starting in Geneva on Monday, 17 February) on the subject of the Jewish minority in Iraq.

2. This coincides with information just received from the Israeli Embassy that Israel intends to raise the whole question of Jews in the U.A.R., Iraq and Syria at the forthcoming session of the Commission.

3. Thus a wider issue is involved than that specifically mentioned by Sir Barnett Janner and this department, together with North African Department and United Nations (Economic and Social) Department is working on the preparation of a brief for Sir Samuel Hoare, the U.K. representative on the Commission. When our policy on this question has been determined, I will consider what reply the Secretary of State may wish to make to Sir Barnett Janner. It may well be however that we will not be able to define our attitude until we know the exact terms in which the Israelis will raise the matter in the Commission. The starting point for the brief to Sir Samuel Hoare will be that we should not jeppardise our hardly won position of neutrality in the Arab/Israeli dispute.

4. I attach a background note on the forthcoming session of the Commission on Human Rights.

J.P. Tripp

(J.P. Tripp)
13 February, 1969.

Copies to:

Mr. Arthur
Mr. King (U.N. (E. & S.) Dept.)
Mr. Speares (N.A.D.)

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(Twenty fifth Session)

The Commission is one of the functional committees of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. As a general rule it meets once a year, alternately in Geneva and New York. The meeting this year will be at Geneva from 17 February to 21 March.

2. The Commission has 32 members elected from the member nations of the United Nations. Britain, by convention, is regarded as a permanent member. Our representative on the Commission is Sir Samuel Hoare.

3. Israel is a member of the Commission and of the Arab countries - Lebanon, U.A.R. and Morocco.

4. Item 7(c) on the provisional agenda for the 25th session provides a possible opening in the proceedings for Israel to ask for a debate on the status of Jews in Iraq, Syria and the U.A.R. This item is headed "Study of situations which reveal a consistent pattern of violations of human rights". The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary General of the United Nations relating to the question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East. It is possible therefore that at the start of the discussion on this item (which will not be reached until 19 or 20 February at

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the very earliest and probably a good deal later) the Israeli representative will, as a countermove, ask for the debate to include the problem of the Jewish minorities in the three Arab countries under reference.

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/982/Add.1
14 January 1969

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Twenty-fifth session

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that "Each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, the Commission shall elect a Chairman and one or two Vice-Chairmen, and ... other officers from among its members".

2. Adoption of the agenda

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that, except for the election of the officers, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. The Commission will have before it the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/982), in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

3. Organization of the work of the Commission

The Commission may wish to examine under this item various matters relating to the organization of its session, such as the order of consideration of agenda items, the allocation of meetings to each item, and any special methods it may wish to adopt to deal with specific items. In this connexion the Commission may also wish to take into account the report (E/CN.4/990) of the ad hoc Working Group established under resolution 8 (XXIV) of the Commission (see annotation to item 6).

4. Question of the punishment of war criminals and of persons who have committed crimes against humanity (resolution 13 (XXIV) of the Commission)

In its resolution 13 (XXIV) the Commission decided "to give high priority" at its twenty-fifth session to the consideration of the question.

The Commission will have before it the study prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolutions 1158 (XLI) of the Economic and Social Council and 13 (XXIV) of the Commission (E/CN.4/983), as regards ensuring the arrest, extradition and punishment of persons responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity and the exchange of documentation relating thereto, including the examination of criteria for determining compensation to the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

5. Question of the establishment of regional commissions on human rights (resolution 7 (XXIV) of the Commission)

In its resolution 7 (XXIV) the Commission decided to consider the question at its twenty-fifth session "as a matter of priority".

The Commission will have before it, in accordance with resolution 7 (XXIV) of the Commission, a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/975) containing the comments of Governments and regional inter-governmental organizations on the part of the report of the ad hoc Study Group established under Commission resolution 6 (XXIII) concerning regional commissions (E/CN.4/966, chapter III).

6. Question of the ways and means which may enable or assist the Commission to discharge its functions, including review of the Commission's procedures and methods of work with a view to expediting the consideration of the items on its agenda: report of the ad hoc Working Group set up under resolution 8 (XXIV) of the Commission

This item is included, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1165 (XLI) and Commission resolution 8 (XXIV). The Commission will have before it the report of the ad hoc Working Group (E/CN.4/990) set up under resolution 8 (XXIV) of the Commission, which the Commission decided to consider "at its next session".

7. Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories

With regard to the item as a whole, the Commission will have before it the Third Annual Supplement (E/CN.4/923/Add.2) to a document (E/4226) setting out the texts of, or extracts from, decisions taken by United Nations organs containing provisions relevant to the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories.

(a) Report of the Special Rapporteur appointed under resolutions 7 (XXIII) and 3 (XXIV) of the Commission

The Commission will have before it the report of Mr. Manouchehr Ganji (Iran) (E/CN.4/979 and addenda), the Commission's Special Rapporteur appointed under resolution 7 (XXIII) of the Commission, who was requested, in resolution 3 E (XXIV) of the Commission, to continue his task and to prepare and submit a report, with his conclusions and recommendations, to the twenty-fifth session of the Commission and to pay particular attention to certain questions set out in the resolution. The Commission will also have before it a letter (E/CN.4/978) from the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights.

(b) Report of the ad hoc Working Group of Experts established under resolution 2 (XXIII) and resolution 2 (XXIV) of the Commission

The Commission will have before it the report (E/CN.4/984) of the Ad Hoc Working Group, initially set up under resolution 2 (XXIII), prepared under resolution 2 (XXIV), by which the Commission decided to expand the Ad Hoc Working Group and to give it an enlarged mandate, and invited the Group to submit its report to the twenty-fifth session of the Commission.

(c) Study of situations which reveal a consistent pattern of violations of human rights as provided in resolution 8 (XXIII) of the Commission and resolution 1235 (XLII) of the Economic and Social Council, including

(i) resolution 1336 (XLIV) of the Economic and Social Council and resolution 6 (XXIV) of the Commission,

(ii) resolution 2394 (XXIII) of the General Assembly,

(iii) resolutions 2 (XXI) and 3 (XXI) of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/985) as requested in resolution 1336 (XLIV) of the Council and resolution 6 (XXIV) of the Commission relating to the question of human rights in the territories occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East. The note also contains the text of General Assembly resolution 2394 (XXIII) on capital punishment in southern Africa, and refers to the proceedings of the Sub-Commission relating to its resolutions 2 (XXI) and 3 (XXI). In pursuance of resolution 1235 (XLII) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General will make available to each of the members of the Commission information contained in the communications referred to in the list prepared by him under Economic and Social Council resolution 728 F (XXVIII) of 30 July 1959.

(d) Model rules of procedure for United Nations bodies dealing with violations of human rights (decision taken at 1576th meeting of the Economic and Social Council on 19 December 1968)

The Commission will have before it a note (E/CN.4/986) drawing its attention to the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council at its 1576th meeting of 19 December 1968 on resolution X of the International Conference on Human Rights requesting the Commission to prepare "at its earliest opportunity" model rules of procedure for the guidance of United Nations bodies dealing with violations of human rights.

8. Reports and Studies of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities:

(a) Report of the twenty-first session of the Sub-Commission;

(b) Outstanding parts of the report of the twentieth session of the Sub-Commission;

(c) Draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of political rights;

(d) Study of discrimination in respect of the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country;

(e) Study of discrimination against persons born out of wedlock.

The Commission will have before it the report of the twenty-first session of the Sub-Commission (E/CN.4/976) held from 7 to 25 October 1968, which includes, in chapter XIII, draft resolutions for consideration by the Commission, the outstanding parts of the report of the twentieth session of the Sub-Commission (E/CN.4/947), draft principles on freedom and non-discrimination in the matter of political rights (Sales No.: 63.XIV.2, annex); the study of discrimination in respect of the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country (Sales No.: 64.XIV.2); and the study of discrimination against persons born out of wedlock (E/CN.4/963). The Commission will also have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/987).

9. Question of the realization of the economic and social rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (resolution 11 (XXIV) of the Commission)

By its resolution 11 (XXIV), the Commission decided to place the question on the agenda of its twenty-fifth session. The Commission will have before it a preliminary study (E/CN.4/988) prepared by the Secretary-General under resolution 11 (XXIV).

10. Periodic reports on human rights

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1074 C (XXXIX) and Commission resolutions 16 (XXIII) and 12 (XXIV), the Commission will have before it:

(a) Reports on civil and political rights for the period from 1 July 1965 to 30 June 1968 received from Governments (E/CN.4/973 and addenda), and from specialized agencies (E/CN.4/974 and addenda);

(b) An analytical summary of the reports and other material on civil and political rights for the period 1 July 1965 to 30 June 1968 prepared by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/980);

(c) A subject and country index to the reports on civil and political rights prepared by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/981);

(d) An up-to-date memorandum on the status of multilateral international agreements in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/907/Rev.3);

(e) Reports on freedom of information for the period from 1 July 1964 to 30 June 1967 received from Governments (E/CN.4/948/Add.18-20) after the twenty-fourth session of the Commission;

(f) The report of the ad hoc Committee on Periodic Reports on the work of its 1969 session (E/CN.4/989).

A note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/991) on this item will be before the Commission.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1074 C (XXXIX), the comments received from non-governmental organizations, as well as comments made on them by Member States concerned, will be made available to each member of the Commission by the Secretary-General.

11. Measures for the speedy implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination

The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General relating to this item (E/CN.4/992).

12. Measures to be taken against nazism and racial intolerance (resolution 15 (XXIV) of the Commission)

In resolution 15 (XXIV) the Commission decided to retain the question on its agenda.

The Commission also requested the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, after considering the draft report on the Special Study prepared by the Sub-Commission's Special Rapporteur on racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres, to submit recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights on measures which could be taken to halt nazi activities wherever they occur. The attention of the Commission is drawn to Chapter II of the report of the twenty-first session of the Sub-Commission (E/CN.4/976) relating to the deliberations in the Sub-Commission on the Special Study. As requested in paragraph 3 of resolution 15 (XXIV), the Secretary-General also wishes to draw the attention of the

Commission to Chapter X of the Special Rapporteur's draft report (E/CN.4/Sub.2/288) which deals with revival of nazism and racial intolerance. The Commission may further wish to note resolution 2438 (XXIII) of the General Assembly which was adopted on the basis of the draft resolution submitted by the Commission to the Economic and Social Council in resolution 15 (XXIV) and endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1335 (XLIV).

13. Study of the question of the education of youth all over the world for the development of its personality and the strengthening of its respect for the rights of man and fundamental freedoms (resolution 2447 (XXIII) of the General Assembly and decision of 1576th meeting of the Economic and Social Council on 19 December 1968).

By resolution 2447 (XXIII), the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission to undertake the above study. The Council complied with the Assembly's request by a decision taken at its 1576th meeting on 19 December 1968. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/993) relating to this item.

14. International Year for Human Rights: Action arising out of resolutions of the International Conference on Human Rights (resolution 2442 (XXIII) of the General Assembly)

By its resolution 2442 (XXIII), the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to transmit to the competent organs of the United Nations those resolutions or parts of resolutions of the International Conference on Human Rights which interest them. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/994) on this item.

15. Study of special problems relating to human rights in developing countries

The Commission, in resolution 15 (XXIII), had decided to consider this item at its twenty-fourth session as a matter of priority. However, the Commission was unable to consider the item at its twenty-fourth session and postponed its consideration to its twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411). The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/977).

16. Question of the establishment of national commissions on human rights

Consideration of the item, placed on the agenda of the Commission at its twenty-third session pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2200 C (XXI), was postponed to the twenty-fourth session and to the twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411). In resolution 2200 C (XXI) the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their comments on the question in order that the Commission might take these comments into account when considering proposals for the establishment of national commissions on human rights or the designation of other appropriate institutions to perform certain functions pertaining to the observance of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

A note by the Secretary-General and the Comments received from Governments are contained in documents E/CN.4/932 and Add.1-5.

17. Advisory services in the field of human rights

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 926 (X) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 684 (XXVI) and 1008 (XXXVII), the Commission will have before it a report by the Secretary-General on the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/995).

In accordance with Commission resolution 10 (XXII), the reports of the human rights seminars held in 1968 in London, United Kingdom, on Freedom of Association (ST/TAO/HR/32), in New Delhi, India, on the Question of the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ST/TAO/HR/34) and in Accra, Ghana on the Civic and Political Education of Women (ST/TAO/HR/35) will also be before the Commission.

18. Study of the right of everyone to be free from arbitrary arrest, detention and exile, and draft principles on freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention

The Commission postponed consideration of the item to its twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411).

The study (E/CN.4/826/Rev.1, United Nations publication, Sales No.: 65.XIV.2), which includes draft principles on freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, was submitted in 1962 to the eighteenth session of the Commission on

Human Rights. In resolution 2 (XVIII), the Commission decided to transmit the draft principles to States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies for their comments. The comments received were previously distributed in documents E/CN.4/835 and Add.1-11 and E/CN.4/835/Add.6/Corr.1.

19. Study of the right of arrested persons to communicate with those whom it is necessary for them to consult in order to ensure their defence or to protect their essential interests

At its twenty-fourth session the Commission postponed consideration of the item to its twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411). The Commission will have before it a preliminary report of the Committee charged with the study (E/CN.4/996).

20. Question of an international code of police ethics

This item was included in the agenda of the twentieth session of the Commission in 1964 following a voeu expressed by the United Nations Seminar on the Role of the Police in the Protection of Human Rights, held at Canberra, Australia, in 1963 (ST/TAO/HR/16, para. 209). Due to lack of time, consideration of the item has been postponed to the twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions (E/4475, para. 411). Statements by the International Federation of Senior Police Officers relating to the question (E/CN.4/NGO/117, 126 and 145) have been circulated to the Commission.

The Commission also has before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/956).

21. Further promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

In resolution 8 (XIX) the Commission decided to continue the study of measures directed towards the acceleration of the development of respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to review the whole question of the future direction of the work of the Commission and of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, taking as a basis the rights enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Commission was unable to consider the item at its twentieth and twenty-first sessions, in 1964 and 1965. The General Assembly, in resolution 2027 (XX) of 18 November 1965, invited the Economic and Social Council to request the Commission to continue its

consideration of the question of further promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. In resolution 16 (XXII) of 2 April 1966 the Commission decided to consider this item at its twenty-third session. At its twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions the Commission postponed consideration of the item (E/4475, para. 411).

22. Communications concerning human rights

The Commission will have before it a confidential list (H.R. Communications List No. 19 and Add.1-2) and a non-confidential list (E/CN.4/CR.38) of communications prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 728 F (XXVIII) and 1235 (XLII), and a confidential document of a statistical nature prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 14 (XV) of the Commission. The replies of Governments to communications furnished to them in accordance with Council resolution 728 F (XXVIII) will be issued as confidential documents.

23. Election of the members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (resolution 1334 (XLIV) of the Economic and Social Council)

By resolution 1334 (XLIV) the Economic and Social Council decided to increase the membership of the Sub-Commission to twenty-six as from 1969 and requested the Commission, at its twenty-fifth session, to elect these members from nominations of experts made by States Members of the United Nations on the following basis: from the Afro-Asian group of States, 12 members; from Western European and other States, 6 members; from Latin American States, 5 members; from Eastern European States, 3 members. The Secretary-General will submit (E/CN.4/998) to the Commission such nominations for election to membership as may be received from Member States.

24. Implementation of recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

This item was included as a separate item on the agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the Commission pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1264 (XLIII). Due to the lack of time, consideration of the item was postponed to the twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411).

The Commission will have before it the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts (A/6343) and a note by the Secretary-General on this question (E/CN.4/970) which was submitted to the twenty-fourth session of the Commission. The Commission will also have before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/997) on developments on this subject since its last session.

25. Review of the human rights programme and establishment of priorities: Control and limitation of documentation

At its twenty-fourth session, the Commission postponed consideration of the item to its twenty-fifth session (E/4475, para. 411).

The Commission will have before it a note submitted by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/970) to the twenty-fourth session of the Commission on the programme of work, the establishment of priorities, and the control and limitation of documentation, with special reference to resolution 1275 (XLIII) adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 4 August 1967 as well as a note (E/CN.4/997) dealing with relevant decisions of the Council and the General Assembly since then.

26. Report of the twenty-fifth session of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

In accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, the Commission shall report to the Council on the work of each session.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/2443 (XXIII)
13 January 1969

Twenty-third session
Agenda item 62

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/7433)]

2443 (XXIII). Respect for and implementation of human rights in occupied territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[1]

Mindful of the principle embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights regarding the right of everyone to return to his own country, and recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967, General Assembly resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967 and 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967, Commission on Human Rights resolution 6 (XXIV) of 27 February 1968[2] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1336 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, in which those United Nations organs called upon the Government of Israel, inter alia, to facilitate the return of those inhabitants who have fled the area of military operations since the outbreak of hostilities,

Recalling the telegram dispatched by the Commission on Human Rights on 8 March 1968, calling upon the Government of Israel to desist forthwith from acts of destroying homes of the Arab civilian population in areas occupied by Israel,[3]

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, Vol. 75 (1950), No. 973.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/4475), chapter XVIII.

3/ Ibid., para. 400.

Recalling also Security Council resolution 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968, in which the Council expressed its concern for the safety, welfare and security of the inhabitants of the Arab territories under military occupation by Israel, and deplored the delay in the implementation of Council resolution 237 (1967),

Noting resolution I on respect for and implementation of human rights in occupied territories, adopted by the International Conference on Human Rights on 7 May 1968,[4/] in which the Conference, inter alia:

(a) Expressed its grave concern at the violation of human rights in Arab territories occupied by Israel,

(b) Drew the attention of the Government of Israel to the grave consequences resulting from the disregard of fundamental freedoms and human rights in occupied territories,

(c) Called upon the Government of Israel to desist forthwith from acts of destroying homes of the Arab civilian population inhabiting areas occupied by Israel and to respect and implement the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[5/] in occupied territories,

(d) Affirmed the inalienable rights of all inhabitants who have left their homes as a result of the outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East to return home, resume their normal life, recover their property and homes, and rejoin their families according to the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

1. Decides to establish a Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories composed of three Member States;

2. Requests the President of the General Assembly to appoint the members of the Special Committee;

3. Requests the Government of Israel to receive the Special Committee, co-operate with it and facilitate its work;

4/ See Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2) p. 5.

5/ United Nations, Treaty Series, Vol. 75 (1950), Nos. 970-973.

4. Requests the Special Committee to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its task.

1748th plenary meeting,
19 December 1968.

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No.15
18 FEB 1969
NET 16/4
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Mr Brighty 18/2
Mr Marks
Enter

Mr. Tripp Rang Marks. I agreed with the submission.
18/2

Iraqi Jews and the Commission on Human Rights

In view of Mr. Brighty's manuscript minute to the effect that the Americans intend to raise the issue of the Iraqi Jews at the Human Rights Commission, I asked Mr. Gordon King of the U.S. Embassy whether he had any information on this point. He had not, but will try to find out and will let me know.

2. Sir S. Hoare before leaving for Geneva on 16 February was given in draft a copy of his brief. Shortly, he has been asked,

a) not to play a leading part either on substance or on procedural questions should the matter be raised.

b) to keep in touch with the American and other western delegations.

c) to seek instructions on specific proposals which may be raised by the Israelis or the Americans.

d) to take the line on the question of adding an item on Iraqi Jews (or UAR or Syrian Jews) to the agenda that our position is that when allegations are made about violations of human rights anywhere it was proper for the Human Rights Commission to consider the matter and this implied no immediate judgement on the question of the substance raised.

3. I explained matters to the Private Office on 18 February and Mr. Brighty said that (d) above coincided with the Secretary of States views and was indeed the line he had taken with Sir B. Janner. Mr. Brighty also said that he had explained matters to Mr. Marks on the line of your submission of 13 February and that the Secretary of State did not feel under any obligation to give a further reply to Sir B. Janner at this stage. Indeed it would be best to let matters rest until we see how things developed in Geneva.

below

4. Sir S. Hoare has been told that Mr. Marks (Secretary of the Board of Deputies) will be in Geneva and will make contact with him.

/5.

5. U.N. (E.&S.) Department are revising the brief to give rather greater precision on certain procedural aspects of the problem. As soon as it is finalised copies will be made available for this Department. In view of the foregoing I do not think that there is any need for a further submission on this subject at the present time.

(A. A. Acland)

18 February, 1969

c.c. Mr. Yarnold
Mr. Hinchcliffe
Mr. Hemans UN (E&S) Department

CONFIDENTIAL

Extra 3

Reference.....

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 15
18 FEB 1969
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Mr. Yapnold

19.2.69

The Human Rights Commission and the Problem of Jews in Iraq, UAR and Syria

The US Embassy (Mr. James) telephoned in response to my enquiry about the possibility of the American Delegation raising this matter in Geneva. He had heard:

a) from the US Mission in Geneva that any suggestion that the US intended to take an initiative was being denied in conversations by the US Delegation to the Human Rights Commission. The US Delegation was also advocating an avoidance of polemics in the affairs of the Commission. They were being lobbied by the many Jewish non-Governmental Organisations.

b) from the State Department that they had heard of the Israeli intention to raise the matter but they were advocating caution as far as the US Delegation was concerned. It was recognised to be a delicate matter which could raise complications.

(A. A. Acland)

19 February, 1969

c.c. Mr. Brighty
Mr. Hinchcliffe
Mr. Hemans UN (E&S)

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Ester
(Jews in Arab countries — Human Rights Comm) 4

Political and Financial Series

STEERING COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

United Nations Commission on Human Rights

25th Session, Geneva

17 February to 21 March, 1969

Agenda Item 7 c (i)

Addendum to IOC (69) 11

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The attached paper has been prepared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Any comments should be sent to Mr. S.N.P. Hemans, telephone 930: 8440, Extension 4.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office, S.W.1.

18 February, 1969

P.A. 24.2.69

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Agenda Item 7c

Study of Situations which reveal a consistent Pattern of violations of Human Rights as provided in Resolution 8(XXIII) of the Commission and Resolution 1235 (XLII) of the Economic and Social Council

(I) At the 23rd Session of the Commission we were instrumental in securing the adoption of Resolution 8 (XXIII), paragraph 5 of which requested authority from ECOSOC to make a thorough study and investigation of situations which reveal a consistent pattern of violations of human rights. The Resolution also requested the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination to bring to the attention of the Commission any situations which it had reasonable cause to believe revealed a consistent pattern of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. ECOSOC Resolution 1235(XLII) duly gave authorisation to this.

2. At its 24th Session, the Commission adopted unanimously (Israel being absent) Resolution 6(XXIV) concerning human rights in the occupied territories of the Middle East, affirming the right of all the inhabitants to return, and calling on the government concerned to facilitate their return. The Resolution called on the Secretary-General to keep the Commission informed of developments. This information will be submitted to the Commission in document E/CN.4/999 which has not yet been received. In its Resolution 1336 (XLIV), ECOSOC endorsed the Commission's Resolution and the General Assembly subsequently adopted Resolution 2443 (XXIII) which in a preambular paragraph recalled the Resolutions of ECOSOC and the Commission. (This Resolution, on which the United Kingdom abstained on the grounds that we could not accept some of its wording, set up a three-man committee to investigate violations of Human Rights in Israeli-occupied territory.)

3. At the Tehran Conference we were able to support inscription of a new item on the agenda dealing with this question, as it was our view that as the situation in the occupied territories undeniably raised human rights questions, some reasonable consideration of the issue should be permitted. We were not, however, able to vote for Resolution (I) at Tehran as (a) we doubted whether the conference should pass resolutions on the question while other United Nations organs were seized of it, and (b) because the terms of the Resolution amounted to an accusation against a particular power on which the conference did not have the authority or the information to pass judgement.

4. This item will almost certainly lead to an acrimonious Arab/Israeli exchange and the Delegation should be extremely careful not to jeopardize our hardly-won position of neutrality in the Arab/Israel dispute. This brief can only serve as a guide, and the Delegation should seek instructions where necessary.

5. The Israelis have informed us officially that at the Commission they intend to raise the subject of Jews in Arab countries, (specifically UAR, Syria and Iraq), with particular reference to the right of citizens of those countries to leave. We expect the Israelis to concentrate on the UAR, where according to the Israeli Embassy in London there are still 1,000 Jews, of whom 200 are allegedly in prison. The Board of Deputies of British Jews has also approached the Secretary of State to seek United Kingdom support for a debate at the Human Rights Commission on the subject of the Jewish minority in Iraq. The Board has since informed us that the Americans will table a Resolution on this subject. The Delegation should keep in close touch with the Americans and other Western delegations.

Procedural Questions

6. The degree of support we can give to a debate on the subject of Jews in Arab countries will depend on the way in which the Israelis intend it to be raised. The Delegation should seek to play as little part as possible in procedural discussion, but may say that in our view the Commission should have a chance to discuss any suggestion that fundamental human rights are being systematically violated anywhere in the world. The Delegation could refer in this context to our attitude at the Tehran Conference, where we were able to support the inscription of the occupied territories item on the grounds that the situation in those territories undeniably raised human rights questions which justified some reasonable consideration of the issue. The Delegation should make it clear that our support for a discussion does not prejudge our position on the substance of the question.

7. The Delegation should take the line that the general wording of the title of Item 7 as a whole comprehends this subject, and may state that in our view a totally new agenda item is unnecessary. The Delegation has discretion to oppose a separate item, unless it can be shown that discussion of the subject will otherwise be impossible. (We should in any event be surprised if the Israelis were to try for the inscription of a separate item, as a motion to that effect would almost certainly be defeated.)

8. It seems probable that the Israelis will seek to raise the subject under Item 7c(i), and we can support this against objections, provided the Israelis (or whoever else introduces the subject) do so in a way which conforms to the procedure laid down by ECOSOC Resolution 1235 (which governs Item 7c as a whole). The Resolution laid down a procedure by which the Commission may examine information "contained in the communications". It is not, however, clear that the resolutions listed as the subject matter of Item 7c(i) themselves directly relate to this procedure for considering communications, except in so far as Resolution 6(XXIV) of the Commission emerged from discussion under the same sub-head last year.

Discussion under this sub-head at the last session also included reference (E/4475 paragraphs 163-164) to Jewish minorities in certain Middle Eastern countries, and it is equally not clear that information "contained in the communications" formed the basis for this. No objection was made to the subject being raised. As we do not accept the connection the Israelis make between human rights in the occupied territories and the rights of Jews in Arab countries (see paragraph 10 below), the Delegation should not in the event of objection support any Israeli attempt to justify discussion of the subject under Item 7c(i) solely because of the link they claim it has with the subject matter already designated for discussion under this sub-item.

9. Although we expect the Arabs not to object on the procedural point that the question is not related to information contained in the communications (and in any event it is very unlikely that there will be no communications on this subject), if an objection is raised and the Delegation raising the subject is unable to show that the question is properly considered under the procedure established by ECOSOC Resolution 1235, the Delegation should take the line that the sub-items are not exhaustive and that the subject can be considered under Item 7 as a whole, without the specific inscription of a new sub-item. Should this view not be acceptable to the Commission the Delegation may support the inscription of a new sub-item provided its title is acceptable, and on this the Delegation should after consultation with other Western Delegations, refer for instructions.

<u>Jews in Arab countries</u>

10. The Delegation should make clear the distinction we draw between occupied territories and sovereign states. We do not accept the Israeli contention that an investigation of the situation in the occupied territories must be balanced by an enquiry into the Jewish communities in Arab countries. This is not to say that we could not support a move for the Commission to seek to have a Committee appointed to look into the situation in Arab countries, but we do not regard the two as analogous. Although we abstained on General Assembly Resolution 2443 (XXIII) which set up the three-man Committee, on the grounds of our dislike of the wording of parts of that Resolution, it reflects the views of the majority of the members of the United Nations and, subject to consideration in London of the detailed wording, a resolution expressing the hope that Israel will cooperate with the Committee might be acceptable. United Kingdom support for a resolution calling for a similar committee to look into the status of Jews in Arab countries would require at least the establishment, under the Commission's mandate in ECOSOC Resolution 1235 (XLII), of a situation "which reveals a consistent pattern of violations of human rights" or a consensus in the Commission accepting the existence of such a situation. It is very unlikely that such a consensus can be achieved, and the Delegation should not play a leading role in urging action. It may well be that the Israelis will not wish to do more than achieve publicity, and will not table a formal resolution of any kind.

Occupied territories

16. General Assembly Resolution 2443 set up a three-man Committee to investigate the human rights of the population of the occupied territories. The President of the General Assembly has yet to appoint the members of the Committee, and even if it is apparent that the Israelis will not allow the Committee to enter Israel, in our view it would be inappropriate for the Commission to take further steps which might duplicate the work of the Committee before it has even begun its deliberations. The Delegation may state this as our view, adding that although we abstained on the General Assembly Resolution, we acknowledge the fact that it reflects the views of the majority of the members of the United Nations. The Delegation should seek instructions if resolutions are tabled on this subject.

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3 February, 1969.

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Dear Simon,

Hangings in Iraq.

I expect that you will be taking account of the recent hangings in Iraq in connexion with the brief for Item 7 (c)(i) of the provisional agenda of the Human Rights Commission's session. In doing so you may like to know that the Israeli Mission have confirmed that their representative on the Commission will be raising this question.

Yours ever,
Derek Milton
(D.F. Milton)

S.N.P. Hemans, Esq.,
UN (E & S) Department,
F.C.O.

This has been taken care of.
P.A. 24.2.

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(COPY ALSO ON UM 16/24 FILE)

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Contingency statement for U.S. Del. to Human Rights Commission sent to me by U.S. Embassy on 21 Feb.

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(6)

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING - MIDDLE EAST

1. US CLEARLY CANNOT BE UNRESPONSIVE TO HUMANITARIAN APPEALS ON BEHALF OF JEWS IN ARAB LANDS. NEVERTHELESS, LEAVING ASIDE INITIAL BURST OF INDIGNATION OVER IRAQI EXECUTIONS, FOLLOWING DRAFTE STATEMENT REFLECTS FACT THERE IS RELATIVELY LITTLE US OR ANY OTHER MEMBER CAN NOW SAY OR DO THAT WILL IN FACT HELP TO ALLEVIATE PLIGHT OF JEWS IN IRAQ, EGYPT AND SYRIA. MANY THINGS WE COULD SAY WOULD MAKE MATTERS WORSE FOR THEM. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THEIR INTERESTS ARE PROBABLY BETTER SERVED BY QUIET, PERSISTENT EFFORTS OF SORT WE AND OTHER STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN MAKING FOR THEIR RELIEF THAN BY PUBLIC APPROACH WHICH COULD WORSEN THEIR PREDICAMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION DEPT NOTES US DEL AS REPORTED GENEVA'S 464 WISELY COUNSELING OTHER COMMISSION MEMBERS TO AVOID POLEMICS THIS MATTER.

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2. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS REFERRED TO IN CONTINGENCY POSITION PAPER PREPARED ON QTE IRAQI EXECUTIONS UNQTE FOR USE AT COMMISSION'S 25TH SESSION:

A) EVERY NATION REPRESENTED HERE TODAY HAS, BY ITS ADHERENCE TO UN CHARTER, PLEDGED ITSELF TO PROMOTE AND ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL RESPECT FOR AND OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS. EACH OF US, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, HAS EXPRESSED UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT FOR THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THAT HISTORIC DOCUMENT EMPHASIZES THE RIGHT TO BE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVED GUILTY ACCORDING TO LAW IN PUBLIC TRIAL CONDUCTED WITH GUARANTEES NECESSARY FOR DEFENSE, THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM ARBITRARY ARREST OR DETENTION, AND THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM TORTURE OR CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT. ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT PROVISION, ARTICLE 13, RECOGNIZES THAT "EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND RESIDENCE WITHIN THE BORDERS OF EACH STATE," AND "EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO LEAVE ANY COUNTRY, INCLUDING HIS OWN, AND TO RETURN TO HIS COUNTRY."

B) MOREOVER, PROCLAMATION OF TEHRAN ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY LAST MAY DECLARES THAT THE "PRIMARY AIM OF UN IN SPHERE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS ACHIEVEMENT BY EACH INDIVIDUAL OF MAXIMUM FREEDOM AND DIGNITY." IT GOES ON TO SAY THAT GROSS DENIALS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARISING FROM DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF RACE, RELIGION, ETC. OUTRAGE CONSCIENCE OF MANKIND AND ENDANGER FOUNDATIONS OF FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND PEACE IN WORLD. IT "URGES ALL PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS TO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE FOR ALL HUMAN BEINGS A LIFE CONSONANT WITH FREEDOM AND DIGNITY AND CONDUCIVE TO PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL WELFARE."

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C) IS IT TOO MUCH TO ASK--INDEED TO EXPECT--THAT THOSE WHO SUPPORT THESE HIGH PRINCIPLES ALSO CONFORM THEIR INTERNAL POLICIES AND ACTIONS TO THEM? THIS COMMISSION CANNOT FAIL BE SENSITIVE TO THESE IDEALS, OR TO DEVELOPMENTS IN WORLD THAT DETRACT FROM THEM OR AFFECT THEM ADVERSELY. SURELY, EACH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING GOVT OF IRAQ, CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THEM.

D) MY GOVT HAS HAD NO REPRESENTATION IN BAGHDAD SINCE GOVT OF IRAQ BROKE RELATIONS IN 1967. I AM NOT THEREFORE IN POSITION TO COMMENT ON FACTS SURROUNDING TRIAL OF FOURTEEN MEN WHO WERE EXECUTED ON JANUARY 27. HOWEVER, ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, MY DELEGATION REGARDS THOSE EXECUTIONS WITH DEEP CONCERN. AS SECRETARY ROGERS SAID ON JANUARY 27, SPECTACLE OF MASS PUBLIC EXECUTIONS IS REPUGNANT TO WORLD'S CONSCIENCE.

E) WE RECOGNIZE LEGAL RIGHT OF ANY GOVERNMENT TO ADMINISTER JUSTICE TO ANY OF ITS CITIZENS. HOWEVER, MANNER IN WHICH THESE TRIALS AND EXECUTIONS WERE CONDUCTED SCARCELY CONFORMS TO NORMALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMAN DIGNITY. INDEED, IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO AROUSE EMOTIONS AND INTENSIFY EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERE OF SUSPICION AND HOSTILITY IN MIDDLE EAST. WE HOPE WIDESPREAD REVULSION AROUSED BY THESE EVENTS WILL INDUCE THOSE RESPONSIBLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR SOLEMN CHARTER OBLIGATIONS AND NOT DETRACT FURTHER FROM EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACE, TOLERANCE AND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING AMONG NATIONS AND PEOPLES, NOT ONLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

F) TURNING TO A RELATED TOPIC, USG BELIEVES THE UN HAS LEGITIMATE, CONTINUING INTEREST IN TREATMENT AND WELFARE OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN THE AREA OF THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. RECORD OF SECURITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSIONS BEARS WITNESS TO OUR CONCERN. IT APPLIES PARTICULARLY TO PERSONS WHO SUFFERED--AND CONTINUE TO SUFFER--AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THAT CONFLICT, NOT ONLY IN TERRITORIES AT PRESENT OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL BUT ALSO IN OTHER PARTS OF THE "AREA OF CONFLICT" (SYRIA, EAST JORDAN, THE UAR, AND ISRAEL ITSELF). WE CONTINUE SUPPORT AN APPROACH BASED ON LETTER AND SPIRIT OF SC RES OF JUNE 14, 1967, WHICH PROVIDES IN HUMANITARIAN TERMS FOR ENSURING PROPER TREATMENT FOR THOSE IN THE "AREA OF CONFLICT" WHO SUFFER AS RESULT OF 1967 HOSTILITIES.

G) HAVING SAID THIS, I AM BOUND TO EXPRESS MY GOVT'S DISMAY THAT THIS COMMISSION, PROPERLY SEIZED WITH AND CONCERNED BY PROBLEM OF FINDING EFFECTIVE MEANS TO DEAL WITH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND TO ENHANCE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, SHOULD ALLOW ITSELF TO BECOME ARENA FOR PROTRACTED POLEMICAL DEBATE ON ISSUES ARISING FROM A POLITICAL DISPUTE IN A PARTICULAR PART OF GLOBE. THOSE ISSUES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED AND ARE STILL BEING CONSIDERED IN THEIR PROPER CONTEXT AND IN THE APPROPRIATE UN ORGANS; NOTABLY, AS REGARDS THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE, THROUGH THE SEARCH FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN ME WHICH HAS BEEN PATIENTLY CARRIED ON BY SY AND SYG'S SPECIAL REP, AMB JARRING.

H) PROLONGATION OF ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE IN HRC IS SURELY NOT CALCULATED IMPROVE RESPECT FOR AND OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ME, OR ANYWHERE ELSE FOR THAT MATTER. IT MUST BE CLEAR TO ALL THAT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ME CAN ONLY BE ELIMINATED BY JUST AND LASTING SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE WHICH HAS GIVEN RISE TO THEM. TO THAT END, WE URGE THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMISSION, ESPECIALLY PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED, TO DEVOTE THEIR ENERGIES TO SUPPORTING AND COOPERATING WITH EFFORTS OF UN AND AMB JARRING DIRECTED TOWARD A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF ME CONFLICT.
ROGERS

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21 February, 1969

Dear Simon.

Human Rights Commission :

Agenda and Organisation of Work

The Commission devoted 18 February to Items 2 and 3 on its provisional agenda.

2. There was some uncertainty about what status to accord to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Fifteen (E/CN.4/990) in considering these items. Eventually, it was decided that the provisional agenda in E/CN.4/982 should be adopted as it stood without prejudice to consideration of the recommendations in the Working Group's report under Items 3 and 6.

The Working Group's report-Boye of Senegal introduced

3. As soon as we came to Item 3 and before the Rapporteur could introduce a draft resolution (E/CN.4/L.1043) on behalf of eleven Afro-Asian delegations which would have laid down the following order of priority for items on the agenda: 6, 24 and 25; 7; 4; 9, 15; 14, 21; and 13, the remaining items being left for later consideration. The sponsors accepted immediately a suggestion by the Russians that Item 12 should be included after Item 4. The main point of interest in the debate which followed was the effort made by Western and Latin American delegations to secure a place for Item 8 (Reports and Studies of the Sub-Commission) among the priority items. We and the French urged that Item 10 should also be included in this category. The Eastern Europeans opposed strongly the inclusion of Item 8 and Boye, who ran the show for the sponsors in a most arrogant and brutal manner, was at first adamant in refusing to make any reasonable concession. Faced however by a continuing chorus of statements in favour of a high place for Item 8, the sponsors agreed during a recess in the meeting to a compromise whereby, whatever the position as regards the completion of Items 6, 24, 25; 7; 4 and 12 by 6 March, the Commission would from that date take up Items 9 and 15 in the mornings, and Item 8 in the afternoons. A place was also found for Item 10. This consensus as it had now become was then presented to the Commission for approval by Boye.

S.N.P. Hemans, Esq.,
U.N.(E. and S.) Department,
F.C.O.,
S.W.1.

4. At this stage the Eastern Europeans, who had taken part in the negotiations, obviously became worried about what would happen to "their" Items 4 and 12 if the Commission had not disposed of them by 6 March. They sought guarantees of one kind and another from Boye and the Chairman, including an assurance that night meetings would be held if necessary, in order to bring this about. If the Chairman had been more firm at this point he could probably have secured the adoption of the consensus by the Commission without further ado. As it was, the debate dragged on and the Russians were given time in which to submit an oral amendment which, though obscurely worded, was intended to meet their needs. This was just carried by 11 (including France and Jamaica) - 10 (including U.K., U.S. and Latin Americans) - 6 and the draft resolution as a whole as amended by 18 (including France, Jamaica and Finland) - 6 (U.S., Uruguay, Venezuela, Chile, Austria + 1) - 4 (U.K., New Zealand, Philippines and Italy). I enclose a copy of Resolution I(XXV). Whatever the intention of the Russian amendment, now inserted in the middle of paragraph 1, it was ambiguously worded (which was the reason that it had support from France, Jamaica, etc) and still leaves the door open to discussion of Item 8 from 6 March onwards. The chances are that items in (a) - (d) inclusive will not have been completed by that date and that a further debate will take place then on how to proceed.

...

5. There are two features of the discussion leading up to the adoption of the resolution which are worth mentioning. The first was the forthright position taken by the Latin Americans, particularly Chile, Venezuela and Uruguay. It looks as though the Latins will pull much more weight in the Commission at this session than they have done in the recent past. Secondly, there was a foretaste of things to come in a number of acrimonious exchanges between Israel and the Arabs. The former started this when Judge Zeltner urged that the question of the hangings in Iraq last month should be taken up at the earliest opportunity under Item 7. This touched off a number of replies by the Arabs (though not by Iraq who have an observer present) and rights of reply by Israel. Since these exchanges there has been the shooting at Zurich airport and there is clearly going to be a lot of heated recrimination under Item 7(c)(i).

6. I am sending a copy of this letter and Resolution 1(XXV) to Janet Unwin in the U.K. Mission in New York.

Yours ever,
Dave Milton
(D. F. Milton)

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ADDSD TO FCO TEL NO 133 OF 28 FEBRUARY RFI (IMMEDIATE) TO UKMIS NEW YORK AND (PRIORITY) TO WASHINGTON TEL AVIV AMMAN AND CAIRO.

FOLLOWING FROM U.K. DELEGATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:

/ 19

M.I.F.T. CONTAINS THE TEXT OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION TABLED UNDER ITEM 7 (C) (I) BY INDIA, MAURITANIA, PAKISTAN AND YUGOSLAVIA. THE REFERENCE TO THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 IS TO THE GROUP ORIGINALLY SET UP UNDER THE COMMISSION'S RESOLUTION 2(XXIII) TO INVESTIGATE THE TREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE COMPOSITION OF THIS GROUP (SENEGAL, TANZANIA, INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA, AUSTRIA AND PERU) IS VERY FAVOURABLE FROM THE ARABS' POINT OF VIEW.

2. AS SEEN FROM HERE, WE THINK THAT WE SHOULD ABSTAIN ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION. IT CLEARLY CUTS ACROSS ACTION SET IN HAND BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND, FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII). IN THE EVENT OF SEPARATE PARAGRAPH VOTING WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE SHOULD VOTE FOR OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 1 WHICH IS VERY SIMILAR TO PARAGRAPH 1 IN RESOLUTION 6 (XXIV) OF THE COMMISSION. WE WOULD ABSTAIN ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 AS WE DID ON THE TELEGRAM SENT TO THE ISRAELIS ON THE BLOWING UP OF HOUSES AT THE COMMISSION'S LAST SESSION. THIS PARAGRAPH COULD ALSO BE INTERPRETED AS CONDONING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. WE WOULD ABSTAIN ALSO ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 AS PRESENTLY WORDED BUT IF IT WERE TO BE REDUCED TO A CALL UPON THE ISRAELIS TO OBSERVE THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTION CONCERNED, WE ASSUME THAT WE COULD VOTE IN FAVOUR. WE WOULD ABSTAIN ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5.

NE

Reply sent.
pa AJ 3.3.69

3. THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS INTRODUCED BY INDIA AT THE END OF TODAY'S MEETING AND IS LIKELY TO BE VOTED UPON SOMETIME ON MONDAY 3 MARCH. WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. A SECOND DRAFT RESOLUTION UNDER THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PREPARED BY CHILE, URUGUAY AND VENEZUELA. URUGUAY IN PARTICULAR, STRESSED THE DESIRABILITY OF HAVING A RESOLUTION OF A PURELY HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER. WE WILL TELEGRAPH THE TEXT AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE. ITS SINGLE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH CONSISTS OF AN APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALL THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED IN THE CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO ITS PEOPLES THAT THEY SHOULD EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE AT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE U.N. AND THAT THEY SHOULD, INTER ALIA, SECURE TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY, RESPECT FOR THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF HUMAN BEINGS, WHICH WILL GREATLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS FOR PEACE. SUBJECT TO CONSIDERING THE TEXT IN WRITING WE WOULD SEE NO OBJECTION TO VOTING FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN DRAFT.

FCO PASS (IMMEDIATE) UKMIS NEW YORK AND (PRIORITY) TO WASHINGTON TEL AVIV AMMAN AND CAIRO.

SIR E. MELVILLE

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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IMMEDIATE U K MISSION GENEVA TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 134 28 FEBRUARY 1969.

UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED TO F C O TELEGRAM NUMBER 134 OF FEBRUARY 28 R F I

IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK PRIORITY WASHINGTON TEL AVIV CAIRO AMMAN.

FOLLOWING FROM U K DELEGATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

M I P T. —\8

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 15
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HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FOUR-POWER DRAFT RESOLUTION.

THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS,

MINDFUL OF THE PRINCIPLE EMBODIED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO RETURN TO HIS COUNTRY,

RECALLING SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 237 (1967) OF 14 JUNE 1967, GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 2252 (ES-V) OF 4 JULY 1967 AND 2341B (XX11) OF 19 DECEMBER 1967, RESOLUTION 6 (XX1V) OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RESOLUTION 1336 (XL1V) OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2452 (XX111) OF 19 DECEMBER 1968 WHICH CALLED UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO TAKE EFFECTIVE AND IMMEDIATE STEPS FOR THE RETURN WITHOUT DELAY OF THOSE INHABITANTS WHO FLED THE AREAS SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES.

FURTHER RECALLING THE TELEGRAM DISPATCHED BY THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON 8 MARCH 1968, CALLING UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO DESIST FORTHWITH FROM ACTS OF DESTROYING HOMES OF THE ARAB CIVILIAN POPULATION IN AREAS OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, AND TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS,

BEARING IN MIND THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 237 (1967) OF 14 JUNE 1967, GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2252 (ES-V) OF 4 JULY 1967, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1336 (XL1V) OF 31 MAY 1968, AND RESOLUTION 6 (XX1V) OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE CALLED FOR THE APPLICATION OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949 IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL!!

P.a. 3.3.69

/NOTING

NE

NOTING THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS ONCE AGAIN EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY, WELFARE AND SECURITY OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE ARAB TERRITORIES UNDER MILITARY OCCUPATION BY ISRAEL, AND DEPLORED THE DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 237 (1967),

NOTING RESOLUTION 1 ON RESPECT FOR AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON 7 MAY 1968, AND RESOLUTION 2443 (XX111) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 19 DECEMBER 1968,

DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE REPORTED CONTINUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AS WELL AS VIOLATIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949 IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL,

HAVING RECEIVED THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/CN.4/999,

1. REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF ALL THE INHABITANTS WHO HAVE LEFT SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES TO RETURN, AND CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS TO THIS EFFECT,
2. DEPLORES ISRAEL'S CONTINUED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, PARTICULARLY THE ACTS OF DESTROYING HOMES OF ARAB CIVILIAN POPULATION, DEPORTATION OF INHABITANTS AND THE RESORTING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST INHABITANTS EXPRESSING THEIR RESENTMENT TO OCCUPATION, AND CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO PUT AN IMMEDIATE END TO SUCH ACTS,
3. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN ON ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO ABIDE BY THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949 RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONS IN TIMES OF WAR, AND CALLS ONCE AGAIN UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO FULLY RESPECT AND APPLY THAT CONVENTION,
4. DECIDES TO ENLARGE THE MANDATE OF THE NEXT TWO WORDS UNDERLINED AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(A) TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING ISRAEL'S VIOLATIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONS IN TIME OF WAR OF 12 AUGUST 1949, IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL AS A RESULT OF HOSTILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST;

(B) TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS, TO HEAR WITNESSES, AND USE SUCH MODALITIES OF PROCEDURE AS IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY;

(C) TO REPORT, WITH ITS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS;

DECIDES TO INCLUDE THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED AS A RESULT OF HOSTILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A SEPARATE ITEM OF PRIORITY ON THE AGENDA OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

FCO PASS IMMEDIATE U K MISSION NEW YORK PRIORITY WASHINGTON TEL AVIV CAIRO AMMAN.

SIR E. MELVILLE

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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PRIORITY FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TO UK MISSION GENEVA

TELEGRAM NO. 73 1 MARCH 1969

(NE)

CONFIDENTIAL

ADDRESSED TO UKMIS GENEVA TELEGRAM NO 73 OF 1 MARCH REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, TEL AVIV, AMMAN, CAIRO.

YOUR TELS NOS 133 AND 134 : HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

YOU SHOULD ACT AS YOU PROPOSE IN PARA 2 OF YOUR TEL NO. 133.

2. SHOULD THE LATIN AMERICAN RESOLUTION BE TABLED IN THE TERMS FORECAST IN PARA 4 OF YOURTEL UNDER REFERENCE, YOU SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOUR.

STEWART

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(Date) 1/3
And to:—

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~~New York~~
~~Washington~~
Tel Aviv
~~Amman, Cairo~~
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— 4 MAR 1969

[*Security classification —if any*] Confidential

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[*Codeword—if any*]

Addressed to UK Mission, Geneva

telegram No. 73 *(date)* 1 March

And to

repeated for information to Uk Mission, New York; Washington, Tel Aviv, Amman, Cairo

Saving to

Your tels. Nos 133 ~~of~~ AND 134:
HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

YOU SHOULD ACT AS YOU PROPOSE IN PARA 2 OF YOURTEL NO 133.

2. SHOULD THE LATIN AMERICAN RESOLUTION BE TABLED IN THE TERMS FORECAST IN PARA 4 OF YOURTEL UNDER REFERENCE, YOU SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOUR.

RNB
(NED) 1/3/69

EN CLAIR
PRIORITY UK MISSION GENEVA TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 138 4 MARCH 1969.

11

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ADDRESSED TO FCO TEL NO 138 OF 4 MARCH REPTD FOR INFO PRIORITY TO UKMIS NEW YORK AND ROUTINE TO WASHINGTON, TEL AVIV, AMMAN, CAIRO.

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 73. 10
HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SUBJECT TO A MINOR AMENDMENT TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4, 19 THE FOUR-POWER DRAFT RESOLUTION IN MY TELEGRAM NO. 134 WAS ADOPTED ON 3 MARCH BY 13 (ARABS, EASTERN EUROPEANS, INDIA, PAKISTAN, IRAN, NIGERIA, TANZANIA) - 1 (ISRAEL) - 16 (U.K., U.S., FRANCE, OTHER WESTERN DELEGATIONS, LATIN AMERICANS, PHILIPPINES AND CONGO (KINSHASA)). OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 1, WHICH WAS VOTED UPON SEPARATELY, WAS RETAINED BY 24 (U.K.) - 1 (ISRAEL) - 4(U.S., FRANCE, GUATEMALA, CONGO). ISRAEL STATED AFTER THE VOTE THAT THEY WOULD NOT CO-OPERATE WITH THE WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS SINCE IT WAS NOT COMPETENT TO INVESTIGATE THE APPLICATION OF THE 1949 GENEVA CONVENTION RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONS IN TIME OF WAR.

2. A WATERED DOWN VERSION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN DRAFT REFERED TO IN MY TELEGRAM NO. 133 WAS 18 ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY ON 4 MARCH.

3. TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS AND REPORT FOLLOW BY BAG.

FCO PASS PRIORITY TO UKMIS NEW YORK AND ROUTINE TO WASHINGTON, TEL AVIV, AMMAN AND CAIRO.

SIR E MELVILLE /REPEATED AS REQUESTED/

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P-a 5.3.69

(12)

Mr. Egerton
H. of C.
Mr. Hildyard

c.c. Mr. Hilton

The Presidency of the General Assembly and the Special Committee to investigate Israeli practices affecting human rights in Occupied Territories

In view of the recent death of the President of the General Assembly, I raised with Mr. Sloan of the Office of Legal Affairs the question whether the Secretariat saw any difficulty arising from the absence of a President. Subject to the points made below, he said they saw no difficulty. A President was not required for the convening of any Special Session which might be called for, and the Chairman of the Guatemalan delegation would, under Rule 30, act as temporary President at the opening of the next Session until the election of a new President. It was his impression, though he had not checked the point, that those Committees which are based on the General Committee ~~are so by indicating~~ the states represented on the General Committee, so that Guatemala would continue to be entitled to sit.

2. He said, however, that one piece of business remained over which the President of the Assembly would normally have completed. Under the General Assembly Resolution 2443 on the "respect for and implementation of human rights in occupied territories by operative paragraphs 1 and 2, the President of the General Assembly was requested to appoint the members of the Special Committee of three Member States to investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories. He said that one State approached had accepted the appointment, one State had indicated that, provided two other States accepted, it would be prepared to be the third, but the search for a third State had found no available candidate. There was therefore a question who should continue to look for the third State, and who should make the formal appointment when this candidate had been found.

3. The appointment could only, under the resolution, be made by the President, and there was no arrangement whereby any particular Vice-President exercised his powers if the President was no longer able to act.

4. The Secretariat had given some preliminary consideration to this question, but were still working on it.

5. One possibility which they had rejected was that a Special Session of the Assembly should be called, but they thought that no-one would want to risk a debate on the Middle East at this stage. They were therefore pursuing the line of thought that one of the Vice-Presidents should be invited to exercise the powers of the President, and that a proposal in this sense should be cleared by correspondence with all the Missions of the United Nations, without convening any meeting. The first step might be to invite the Latin American Group to suggest which of the Vice-Presidents they would wish to see put forward to the General membership for

P.H.L. 3.6.69

this purpose. (The Chairman of the delegations of Guyana and Peru were the only Latin American Vice-Presidents at the XXIII Session.) The Secretariat told me that they had attempted to persuade Arenales to nominate a Vice-President, but he had not been in a medical state to do so by the time they approached him.

6. This procedure to obtain agreement to the election of a Vice-President has no sound basis in the Rules of Procedure. Rule 32 states that "if the President finds it necessary to be absent during a meeting or any part thereof, he shall appoint one of the Vice-Presidents to take his place", and Rule 34, entitled "Replacement of the President", provides that "if the President is unable to perform his functions, a new President shall be elected for the unexpired term". Rule 35 provides that "a Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President", but this is closely linked to Rule 32, which gives the power of appointment to the President.

7. It would be theoretically possible to convene a Special Session to adopt only one item on its agenda, namely "The election of a President for the purpose of carrying out residual functions to be discharged by the President of the General Assembly" in the hope that one could thus avoid any debate on the substance of the remaining task of the President. But it would be impossible to guarantee that the Arabs would not take the opportunity to make anti-Israeli speeches.

8. The Secretariat were a little concerned that Israel might resist the operation, since they had no desire to see the Special Committee of three Members appointed. On the other hand, as I mentioned to Mr. Sloan, if the Israelis made too much trouble, there was a risk of a Special Session, which would certainly not be to their advantage, unless they thought it would help to break up the Four Power talks.

9. Mr. Sloan also told me that the Arabs were putting considerable pressure on the Secretariat to set about the process of solving this problem in order to resume the search for and appoint a third Member for this Committee.

10. Neither Peru nor Guyana are ideal candidates for the Presidency, and I believe the Peruvian Mission is at present in the hands of Mr. Caceres as chargé. On the other hand, the convening of a meeting of the General Assembly would involve considerable risks. On the whole, therefore, it seems best to go along with whatever procedure by written consultation is most likely to produce a non-controversial candidate.

11. One possible alternative would be to consider the appointment, perhaps again by correspondence, of the Permanent Representative of Guatemala. Dr. Kestler Farnes is, however, completely new. I know him personally because he has represented Guatemala in the Sixth Committee, and he therefore knows a certain amount about the United Nations. But the succession of one of the Vice-Presidents would be rather more easy to justify if it is desired to appoint an acting President, rather than to elect a new President.

12. Mr. Sloan did not mention the countries under consideration for the Special Committee of Three, but

/from

from a discussion with Mr. Milton it appears likely that Ireland and a number of others have refused appointment, the Philippines have accepted it, and that it is Argentina who have indicated that they would be prepared to serve provided a third Member can be found.

13. If those to whom this minute is addressed agree, it might be useful to pass this information to London, so that they can be considering our own views if they wish to do so. Mr. Milton has told me that, on his side, there is no suggestion that there is great pressure to complete this appointment, but Mr. Egerton may be able to confirm whether he has heard anything from the Arab delegations.

(H. G. Darwin)
5 May, 1969.

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Secret
28/5

Copy taken for UN (RD).

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With the compliments of

THE UNITED KINGDOM MISSION
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

(H. G. Darwin)

W.V.J. Evans, Esq., C.M.G., M.B.E.,
Legal Adviser, FCO.

The Mission decided not to send this till the Sec^t view as clearer but now

NEW YORK
26 May 1969

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29 MAY 1969

Copies xxxxxxxxxx xx: the S.G. has done something you may wish to have it.

HGD 26: V

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ROUTINE UK MISSION NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELNO. 1018 26 MAY 1969
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ADDRESSED TO FCO TELEGRAM NO. 1018 FOF 26 MAY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH PRESIDENT ARENALES HAD NOT COMPLETED THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES PROVIDED FOR IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 1 OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII).
2. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS NOW CIRCULATED A NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DATED 23 MAY SEEKING THEIR VIEWS (BY 10 JUNE) ON HOW THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE APPOINTED, GIVEN THAT THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAKE NO PROVISION FOR ANYONE TO REPLACE THE PRESIDENT IN THE EVENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE ASSEMBLY. THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S NOTE PUTS FORWARD THREE ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS:

(I) TO CONVENE A SPECIAL SESSION POSSIBLE ATTENDED ONLY BY MEMBERS OF PERMANENT MISSIONS, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ANOTHER METHOD FOR CONSTITUTING THE COMMITTEE:

(II) TO HAVE ONE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS DESIGNATED TO UNDERTAKE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE: AND

(III) HAVING REGARD TO RULE 30 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, TO ASCERTAIN FROM THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT WHO WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE GUATEMALAN DELEGATION FOR XXIVTH SESSION AND TO REQUEST HIM TO UNDERTAKE THE APPOINTMENT.

3. THERE ARE OBVIOUS OBJECTIONS TO A SPECIAL SESSION WHICH COULD LEAD TO FRUITLESS REOPENING OF DEBATE ABOUT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AND EVEN OF THE MIDDLE EAST GENERALLY AND WE WOULD NOT EXPECT THERE TO BE ANY SUPPORT FOR THIS. THE U.S. MISSION

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P.a J 3.6.69

SHARE OUR VIEW.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE OTHER TWO ALTERNATIVES WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S NOTE SUGGESTS MIGHT BE MORE ''CONVENIENT'', THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE LITTLE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THEM. THE SECOND HAS THE POSSIBLE ADVANTAGE OF PROVIDING A MORE AUTOMATIC SOLUTION AND MAY THUS BE A BETTER PRECEDENT FOR THE FUTURE.

5. WE WILL TAKE SOUNDINGS OF OTHER MEMBERS AND GROUPS AND LET YOU HAVE OUR RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN WE HAVE DONE SO. AS YOU KNOW, THE CHANCES OF ANYONE BEING ABLE TO FIND THREE UNCOMMITTED COUNTRIES TO SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE ARE SLENDER. ONLY THE PHILIPPINES, OF MANY APPROACHED, HAVE SO FAR ACCEPTED.

FCO PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

LORD CARADON

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ROUTINE UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO 1036 27 MAY 1969

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ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO 1036 OF 27 MAY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV WASHINGTON AND SAVING TO PARIS MOSCOW BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 29 MAY 1969

MYTEL NO 1018 (13):

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

OUR SOUNDINGS SO FAR HAVE SHOWN A GREAT VARIETY OF VIEW.

2...AMONG THE LATINS AND SCANDINAVIANS THERE IS STRONG FEELING THAT EITHER ALTERNATIVE (II) OR (III) IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF MYTEL UNDER REFERENCE IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND THEREFORE UNACCEPTABLE. CANADA IS ALSO OF THIS VIEW. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY ALL RECOGNISE THE DIFFICULTIES OF A SPECIAL SESSION. SOME OF THEM SEEM TO THINK IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO DELAY MATTERS SO THAT THE WHOLE THING IS PUT OFF UNTIL THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION.

3...THE ARABS ARE OF COURSE MAKING THE RUNNING ON THIS ISSUE. THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC AND ALGERIA THINK THAT EITHER ALTERNATIVE (II) OR (III) WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. SOME OF THEM, INCLUDING THE U A R, HAVE EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR (III) IF ONLY BECAUSE THIS AVOIDS THE DIFFICULTY OF CHOOSING BETWEEN THE VICE-PRESIDENTS. THE ALGERIAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE (II) TO HIS CAPITAL ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE VICE-PRESIDENTS ARE AT LEAST ELECTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THUS HAVE SOME STATUS STEMMING FROM THAT BODY.

4...WE ARE STILL OF THE VIEW THAT (III) IS PROBABLY THE BEST AND THIS IS THE AMERICAN VIEW. THE AMERICANS ALSO THINK THAT THERE IS NO HURRY. THE FRENCH TOO ARE INCLINED TO FAVOUR ALTERNATIVE (III).

/ 5...THERE

P.A.J. 3.6.69

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5...THERE IS VERY LITTLE IN ALL THIS PROVIDING WE CAN AVOID A SPECIAL SESSION. IF YOU AGREE, WE PROPOSE TO DEALY ANY REPLY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL UNTIL A CLEARER VIEW EMERGES AMONG THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, UNLESS FURTHER SOUNDINGS SUGGEST THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO PUT IN AN INTERIM REPLY DISCOURAGING A SPECIAL SESSION WITHOUT OPTING FOR EITHER SUB-ALTERNATIVE. IF THE TREND OF OPINION MOVES IN FAVOUR OF EITHER ALTERNATIVE (II) OR (III) WE COULD SUPPORT THE TREND WITH A PREFERENCE IN FAVOUR OF (III).
6...IF THE PRESENT DISAGREEMENTS TAKE SOME TIME TO RESOLVE SO THAT IN THE EVENT WE RUN INTO THE NEXT REGULAR ASSEMBLY SESSION THIS AGAIN WOULD BE A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW.

FCO PASS AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO MOSCOW PARIS BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

LORD CARADON.

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EN CLAIR AND BY BAG

PRIORITY FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TO UKMIS NEW YORK

TELNO 625 28 MAY 1969 (N.E.D.)

UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED TO UKMIS NEW YORK TELEGRAM NUMBER 625 OF 28 MAY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN, CAIRO, TEL AVIV, WASHINGTON AND SAVING TO PARIS MOSCOW BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY.

YOUR TELEGRAM NO 1036. - 14

PARAGRAPH 5. WE AGREE.

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Addressed to UK Miss New York

telegram No. 625 (*date*) 28/5

And to

repeated for information to Amman, Cairo, Tel Aviv, Washington

Saving to Paris, Moscow, Beirut, Guatemala City

Your telegram No. 1036 [Special Committee on Israeli Occupied Territories]

Paragraph 5. We agree

R.E. 28/5.

(16)

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PRIORITY TEL AVIV TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO.333 29 MAY 1969

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ADDRESSED TO FCO TEL NO. 333 OF 29 MAY REPTD FOR INFMN TO UKMIS NEW YORK CAIRO AMMAN WASHINGTON AND SAVING TO PARIS MOSCOW BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY.

UKMIS NEW YORK TEL NO. 1036 TO FCO: SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAEL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

IN REPLY TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION YESTERDAY, MR. EBAN SAID THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT ACCEPT A UNITED NATIONS INVESTIGATION OF THE SITUATION OF THE ARABS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES UNLESS THE INVESTIGATION WAS EXTENDED TO COVER THE PLIGHT OF JEWS IN ARAB COUNTRIES.

2. THIS REACTION WAS PREDICTABLE. I AM GLAD TO SEE FROM THE TEL UNDER REFERENCE AND YOUR REPLY THAT WE MAY BE ABLE SO TO ARRANGE MATTERS THAT THIS PROPOSAL DRIFTS INTO THE NEXT SESSION, IF NOT INTO THE SAND. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THIS POST THE SAND WOULD BE BEST, IF WE WANT TO MAXIMISE OUR CHANCES OF PUTTING ACROSS FOUR-POWER PROPOSALS AND TO AVOID EXTRA IRRITANTS.

FCO PASS UKMIS NEW YORK CAIRO WASHINGTON AND SAVING TO PARIS MOSCOW AND BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

MR. BARNES [REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO 1070 30 MAY 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO 1070 OF 30 MAY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV WASHINGTON GUATEMALA CITY PARIS MOSCOW BEIRUT AND SAVING TO UKMIS GENEVA.

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10
-2 JUN 1969
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MYTEL NO 1036: /14.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS OF ISRAELI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES REPLY DATED 28 MAY TO U THANTS CIRCULAR NOTE SETTING OUT THREE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES WHEREBY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE MIGHT BE APPOINTED:-

''SINCE THE 23RD SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS DECLARED CLOSED ON 21 DECEMBER 1968, THE LATE PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY MR. EMILIO ARENALES, WAS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE CONSULTATIONS TO WHICH HE REFERRED IN HIS STATEMENT AT PAGE 199 OF THE PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 1752ND MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THAT DATE, WITH REGARD TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE MEMBER STATES TO CONSTITUTE A SPECIAL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII) OF 19 DECEMBER 1968. AS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS CERTAINLY AWARE, THE LATE PRESIDENT APPROACHED A LARGE NUMBER OF MEMBER STATES, INVITING THEM TO SERVE ON THAT SPECIAL COMMITTEE BUT, AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, HAD NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THOSE EFFORTS ON ACCOUNT OF THE REFUSAL OF A GREAT MANY MEMBER STATES TO ACCEPT SUCH AN INVITATION. THOSE REFUSALS ARE THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE ARBITRARY AND ONE-SIDED CHARACTER OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII), WHICH, AS THE RECORD OF THE 1748TH PLENARY MEETING SHOWS, WAS IN FACT ADOPTED BY A MINORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.''

/ ''IN THE

P a A 3.6.69

''IN THE COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO GUATEMALA ON 6 MARCH 1969, THE LATE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIMSELF EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT AT THA( ) JUNCTURE OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WOULD ADD ''NUEVOS MOTIVOS DE FRICCION A LA YA TENSA SITUACION DEL MEDIANO ORIENTE''. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL FULLY SHARES THAT VIEW, WHICH IS EVEN MORE PERTINENT NOW THAN AT THE DATE OF THE ABOVE COMMUNICATION.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S COMMINUCATION UNDER REPLY CONFIRMS THAT NO PROVISION IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGULATES THE SITUATION WHICH HAS COME INTO BEING FOLLOWING THE LAMENTED DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE 23RD SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IT APPEARS THAT ONLY CHANGES IN EXISTING PROCEDURES WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE FURTHER ACTION IN THE MATTER, AND IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT IS THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL THAT SUCH CHANGES WOULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED.''

''AS FOR THE FUTURE CHAIRMAN OF THE FUTURE GUATEMALA DELEGATION TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HIS SOLE FUNCTION UNDER RULE 30 IS FORMALLY TO OPEN THE SESSION AND PRESIDE UNTIL A NEW PRESIDENT IS ELECTED. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL FAILS TO SEE HOW IT COULD BE REGARDED AS WITHIN THE ''SPIRIT'' OF THIS RULE TO ASCERTAIN IN ADVANCE WHO MIGHT BE APPOINTED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GUATEMALA DELEGATION AND THEN TO ASK THIS PERSON AT PRESENT TO PERFORM A TASK WHICH THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO PERFORM. SUCH A COURSE CANNOT BE BASED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ON THE LANGUAGE OF RULE 30, AND IN ANY CASE WOULD APPEAR TO CONTRADICT THE CLEAR STIPULATION OF ARTICLE 21 OF THE CHARTER.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL SEES NO REASON FOR DEPARTING FROM ESTABLISHED PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES AND BELIEVES THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THE SHORT PERIOD WHICH NOW REMAINS BEFORE THE 24TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS DUE TO CONVENE, THERE IS NO NECESSITY FOR ANY OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY AND LARGELY UNPRECEDENTED ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF ACTION SUCH AS ARE SUGGESTED IN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S COMMUNICATION UNCDER REPLY.

/ IT IS

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL MIGHT WELL LIMIT HIMSELF TO DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THIS MATTER, IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANISATION.''

2...SEE M I F T

FCO PASS AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV GUATEMALA CITY PARIS MOSCOW BEIRUT AND SAVING UKMIS GENEVA.

LORD CARADON.

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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CYPHER/CAT A

PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO 1071 30 MAY 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO 1071 OF 30 MAY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV WASHINGTON MOSCOW BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY PARIS AND SAVING TO U.K MISSION GENEVA

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 -2 JUN 1969 NET 18/4

M I P T: /16

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

AMBASSADOR TEKOAH (ISRAEL) SPOKE TO ME ABOUT HIS REPLY TO U THANT'S NOTE TO-DAY AND SAID THAT HE VERY MUCH HOPED THAT WE WOULD ACCEPT THE ISRAELI CONTENTION THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT THIS UNTIL THE 24TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION BEGINS. IT WOULD THEN BE WELL TO CONSIDER THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION OF THE EXERCISE OF THE PRESIDENT'S POWER IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES FOR THE FUTURE. TEKOAH ALSO SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THAT THE GUATEMALA GOVERNMENT HAD SAID THAT THEY COULD NOT SUPPORT ACTION UNDER ALTERNATIVE 3, THOUGH TEKOAH SAID THAT HE WAS AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF THIS.

2...AS BACKGROUND YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP HERE CONSIDERED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE ON 27 MAY AND DECIDED TO DEFER FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA HAD REPLIED TO THE NOTE. THE IRISH AMBASSADOR TOLD US LATER THAT THE LATINS HAD DECIDED TO SUPPORT WHATEVER DECISION THE GUATEMALANS MADE, BUT ASSUMED THEY WOULD OPT FOR THE THIRD ALTERNATIVE IN U THANT'S NOTE, I.E. THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GUATEMALAN DELEGATION TO THE XXIV SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD UNDERTAKE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSION. CREMIN ADDED THAT THE ARABS DECIDED ON 29 MAY TO FOLLOW WHATEVER LINE THE LATINS ADOPTED.

/ 3...IT

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p.m.A 3.6.69

3...IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF H M CONSUL IN GUATEMALA CITY COULD TRY AND ASCERTAIN WHAT GUATEMALAN INTENTIONS REALLY ARE. I IMAGINE THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE BRINGING EVERY POSSIBLE PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THEM TO TAKE THE LINE MENTIONED TO ME BY TEKOAH (PARA. 1 ABOVE).

FCO PASS AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV MOSCOW PARIS BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY AND SAVING UKMIS GENEVA.

LORD CARADON.

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

~~FOR~~ COPY

TELEGRAM NO 1083 2 JUNE 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO 1083 OF 2 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV WASHINGTON BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY ~~PARIS~~ MOSCOW AND SAVING UKMIS GENEVA.

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REGISTRY No. 10
-3 JUN 1969
NET 18/4

-17.

MYTEL NO 1071:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

THE U S MISSION TOLD US TODAY THAT THEY HAD LEARNT THAT THE GUATEMALAN MISSION HAVE INFORMED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP, ON INSTRUCTIONS, THAT GUATEMALA SUPPORTS THE FIRST OF THE THREE ALTERNATIVES PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR APPOINTING THIS COMMITTEE: I.E. THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION.

2...THE AMERICANS WERE NOT WARNED IN ADVANCE AND THE U S MISSION ARE ASKING WASHINGTON THAT THE AMBASSADOR IN GUATEMALA CITY SHOULD MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO PERSUADE THE GUATEMALANS TO RECONSIDER. MEANWHILE, YOST IS CONTACTING THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES HERE OF GUATEMALA, BRAZIL, MEXICO, COLOMBIA AND ARGENTINA IN THE HOPE OF INFLUENCING THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP AGAINST AUTOMATICALLY FOLLOWING THIS UNEXPECTED GUATEMALAN DECISION.

3...THE AMERICANS HAVE ALSO SENT A REPLY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE INFORMING HIM OF THEIR PREFERENCE FOR ALTERNATIVE 3.

4...WE SHOULD DO WHAT WE CAN TO MINIMIZE THE DANGER OF SNOWBALLING IN FAVOUR OF A SPECIAL SESSION. WE ARE THEREFORE SENDING A NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (REFERENCE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION PARSONS/LAMBERT) IN REPLY TO HIS NOTE OF 23 MAY, STATING THAT H M G NOTE THAT HE CONSIDERS THAT THE SECOND ALTERNATIVE PROPOSED BY HIM WOULD APPEAR TO BE MORE CONVENIENT, AND THAT H M G, FOR THEIR PART, COULD SUPPORT EITHER VARIATION, WITH A PREFERENCE FOR SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2 (B). COPIES OF OUR NOTE FOLLOW BY BAG.

FCO PASS AMMAN CAIRO TEL AVIV MOSCOW PARIS BEIRUT GUATEMALA CITY AND SAVING UKMIS GENEVA.

LORD CARADON. / REPEATED AS REQUESTED /

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P.a 3.6.69

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PRIORITY GUATEMALA CITY TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

Telno. 42 2 June, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to FCO telegram No. 42 of 2 June. Repeated for information to U.K. Mission New York. 16 17

U.K. Mission New York telegrams Nos. 1070 and 1071: Special Committee on Israeli Occupied Territory.

I shall try to get a line on Guatemalan intentions, but should be grateful to see U.K. Mission telegram No. 1056 if this gives essential background information.

FCO pass U.K. Mission New York.

Mr. Trew. / Repeated as requested /

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Near Eastern Dept.
United Nations Dept

Saving copy should have arrived in Bag today

P-n A 3.6.69.

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Cypher/Cat.A
GUATEMALA
Telno.43

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
4 June, 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to FCO Telno.43 of 4 June. Repeated for information to UKMIS New York, Amman, Cairo, Tel Aviv, Washington, Beirut, Paris, Moscow and Saving to UKMIS Geneva.

UKMIS New York Telno.1083 : Special Committee on Israeli Occupied Territory.

I understand from U.S. Embassy, who have been lobbying hard, that the Guatemalans have in fact now withdrawn their support for a special session, but they have not yet opted for any alternative. They are dithering because until a new Foreign Minister is appointed to replace Arenales, it is not known who will be the Chairman of the Guatemalan Delegation to the 24th Session. The President is apparently not yet ready to choose a new Foreign Minister and is refusing to be hurried. Apparently the Foreign Ministry have been considering the proposal that the task should be passed to either the Peruvian or Guyanian Vice President, but the Americans are trying to steer them off this.

2. I have not spoken to anyone in the Guatemalan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

F.C.O. pass.

Mr. Trew

[Repeated as requested]

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P.a J 9.6.

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PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NO. 1224 19 JUNE 1969
RESTRICTED
ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 1224 OF 19 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

MY TELEGRAM NO. 1083:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS NOW CIRCULATED A SEQUEL TO HIS NOTE OF 23 MAY (MY TELEGRAM NO. 1018) SAYING THAT REPLIES RECEIVED BY YESTERDAY TOTALLED NINETY, OF WHICH SIXTY-SIX, MORE THAN AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY, FAVOURED ALTERNATIVE 2(A), I.E. THE DESIGNATION OF ONE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION TO UNDERTAKE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE. COPIES OF NOTE BY AIR BAG.

2. FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FROM SEVERAL MEMBERS IN FAVOUR OF THIS COURSE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL STATES THAT HE WILL CONVENE A MEETING OF THE SEVENTEEN VICE-PRESIDENTS ON MONDAY AFTERNOON (23 JUNE).

3. I ASSUME YOU WOULD NOT WISH US TO TAKE A LEADING PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS.

F.C.O. PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING PARIS, MOSCOW. BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

LORD CARADON

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PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NO. 1224
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TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
19 JUNE 1969

Repeat news London

ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 1224 OF 19 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

MY TELEGRAM NO. 1083: ~~18~~

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS NOW CIRCULATED A SEQUEL TO HIS NOTE OF 23 MAY (MY TELEGRAM NO. 1018) SAYING THAT REPLIES RECEIVED BY YESTERDAY TOTALLED NINETY, OF WHICH SIXTY-SIX, MORE THAN AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY, FAVOURED ALTERNATIVE 2(A), I.E. THE DESIGNATION OF ONE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION TO UNDERTAKE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE. COPIES OF NOTE BY AIR BAG.

2. FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FROM SEVERAL MEMBERS IN FAVOUR OF THIS COURSE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL STATES THAT HE WILL CONVENE A MEETING OF THE SEVENTEEN VICE-PRESIDENTS ON MONDAY AFTERNOON (23 JUNE).

3. I ASSUME YOU WOULD NOT WISH US TO TAKE A LEADING PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS.

F.C.O. PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING PARIS, MOSCOW. BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

LORD CARADON

(Copy retained UL 6/11 for our procedure)
JM 25/6

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Special Committee on Israeli-occupied Territories.

See UK Miss Telegram No. 1224 (copy attached). If you agree, I propose to send the attached reply to paragraph 3 of the UK Miss Telegram.

L M Moreland
20/6

UN(PA) Dept (Mr. Donohue)

I agree
J Swan
20/6

Tel. sent today.

P/9
CMA 20/6.

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(22)

UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
845 Third Avenue, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

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REGISTRY
20 JUN 1969
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(27/58/27)

12 June 1969.

Dear John

Special Committee on Israeli-Occupied Territories

Please refer to our telegram no. 1083 of 2 June, which gave details of our reply to the Secretary-General's circular Note of 23 May setting out three alternatives whereby the Special Committee on Israeli-Occupied Territories might be appointed. These alternatives were briefly 1) a Special Session, 2(a) the selection by the Vice-Presidents of the XXIII Session of one of their number to appoint the Committee and 2(b) to ask the Guatemalans who would be the leader of their delegation to the XXIV Session and to request him to make the appointment.

2. When we sent our reply it seemed most unlikely that there would be any move in favour of co-ordinating policies within the Western Group. Although the issue could be considered as an electoral matter, it was also clearly political and the Scandinavians were taking the line that a W.E.O.G. meeting would not be appropriate. Later, however, all the other regional groups began to hold consultations and the Chairman of the Latin Americans, who were the Group principally concerned, asked for Western European views, individually or collectively. After the Scandinavians had held a meeting at which they were unable to come to any decisions at all, the representative of France, in his capacity as Chairman of the W.E.O.G. for this month, called a meeting of the Group on 10 June to exchange views on the subject. After routine reservations from the Swedes and the Finns on the competence of W.E.O.G. in a fundamentally political matter, and general agreement that there could be no joint reply or common Group position, almost every member of the Group expressed views, as follows.

3. Australia, Canada, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg said they saw grave legal objections to all three alternatives proposed by the Secretary-General. If and when they answered his Note, they would say that they much preferred that the situation should be settled by the President of the XXIV Session of the General Assembly when elected. The Belgian added that it could be said that the Secretary-General had not set out a full list of alternative courses; there was this fourth possibility.

/4.

J. H. Lambert, Esq.,
United Nations (Political) Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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4. The Spaniard said there was no precedent for the present situation. Spain, however, believed that outstanding business left uncompleted by Arenales should be completed before the new Session began. Spain had therefore replied that either alternative 2(a) or 2(b) would be acceptable. I explained the gist of our reply to the Secretary-General, adding that we shared both the general opposition to a Special Session and the doubts which had been expressed about the constitutional propriety of the second two alternatives suggested by U Thant; nevertheless the situation was exceptional and if there were general agreement on a rather broader interpretation of the rules as an exceptional solution, we should not wish to raise objections.

5. Ireland, Iceland, Norway, Austria, Greece, Denmark and New Zealand all expressed varying degrees of support for alternatives 2(a) or 2(b), with a slight preference for 2(b). Turkey said that while the first course, i.e. a Special Session, was the best of a bad bunch legally, 2(a) was the most convenient.

6. Italy, and en passant some other countries (e.g. Australia), said they would like a proper legal opinion on the merits of each alternative suggested by U Thant before making up their minds. In any case it was best to be sure what the Latin American Group decided to do before sending in a reply. Vinci added that he had heard that the Latins, at a meeting on 9 June, had decided to defer all further attempts to reach agreement on U Thant's three alternatives in the light of the results of the elections last week to the U.N.D.P. Governing Council, in which Argentina, one of the endorsed candidates of the Latin American Group, had been defeated by Cuba which did not appear on the Latin slate. Vinci further said that he understood that the Latins had agreed that their Chairman should contact those of the other Groups and ask for clarification of their attitude towards the convention that the endorsed candidates of a Group should be supported by members of other Groups without question.

7. As you will know, Vinci's information was correct and we are writing separately about Latin American reactions. Their fury with the Afro-Asians and East Europeans is likely to be a considerable factor in this whole business, and also indeed in all issues at present under consideration by Groups. Various Latins have told us that they are in no mood to do favours to the Afro-Asians: this might be important to us e.g. in the context of Rhodesia. Meanwhile you may like to know that all members of the Arab Group (except Tunisia) have replied individually to the Secretary-General saying that they favour alternative 2(a). This is also the position of the East European Group, the African Group and the majority of the

/Asian

Asian Group: the minority expressed readiness to fall in with whatever the Latin Americans decide. The Israelis continue to oppose all three alternatives and openly welcome the further delay likely to be caused by the Latin desire for clarification from the other Groups of their attitude towards the election of each other's endorsed candidates.

(D. H. T. Hildyard)

c.c. Chanceries at:

Amman
Cairo
Tel Aviv
Washington
Beirut
Paris
Moscow

UKDIS, Geneva
Consulate, Guatemala City

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ROUTINE UK MISSION NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELNO. 1238 20 JUNE 1969

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ADDRESSED TO FCO TELEGRAM NO. 1238 OF 20 JUNE REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
THANKYOU FOR YOUR TELNO. 737. WE SHALL GO ALONG WITH THE GENERAL WISH AT THE MEETING ON MONDAY.
2. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT AMBASSADOR TEKOAH (ISRAEL) SPOKE TO ME THIS MORNING ABOUT THIS MEETING. HE STRONGLY URGED THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOULD STAND AGAINST THE ACTION PROPOSED. I UNDERTOOK TO REPORT WHAT HE SAID.

FCO PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW BEIRUT AND GUATEMALA CITY.

LORD CARADON

pl 4
CP73/72

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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PRIORITY FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TO UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 737 20 JUNE1969

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ADDRESSED TO U.K. MISSION NEW YORK TELEGRAM NUMBER 737 OF 20 JUNE
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV
AND SAVING TO PARIS, MOSCOW, BEIRUT, GUATEMALA CITY.

YOUR TEL NO. 1224. [SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES]

PARAGRAPH 3, YOUR ASSUMPTION IS CORRECT.

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(*Date*) 20 JUN 1969

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NET 18/4

[*Security classification —if any*] ~~Confidential~~ Unclassified

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[*Codeword—if any*]

Addressed to UK Miss New York

telegram No. 737 (*date*) 20 June

And to —

repeated for information to Washington, Cairo, Amman, Tel Aviv

Saving to Paris, Moscow, Beirut, Guatemala City

Your tel. No. 1224 [Special Committee on ISRAELI Held-occupied Territories]

Paragraph 3; your assumption is correct.

LWA 20/6

Draft Telegram to:—
UK Miss New York
No. 734
(*Date*) 20/6
And to:—

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1330Z 20/6/69

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UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE: OR 421 P & P

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note of 23 May 1969 by which he consulted the Members of the United Nations as to the most appropriate way of resolving the question of the appointment of the special committee provided for in General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968.

In the above-mentioned note, the Secretary-General indicated that there appeared to be only two practicable alternatives to comply with the resolution, namely:

"1. To convene a special session of the General Assembly to provide another method for constituting the special committee;

"2. (a) To find a procedure which, through its acceptance by Member States, would permit the designation of one of the Vice-Presidents to undertake the appointment of the special committee;

(b) Alternatively, and in line with the spirit of rule 30 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to ascertain from the Government of Guatemala, if possible, who would be the Chairman of that country's delegation for the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and request him to undertake the appointment of the special committee."

On 11 June 1969, the Secretary-General sent a reminder to those Member States which had not yet replied to his communication and extended the time-limit for the submission of replies to 17 June.

As of the present, replies have been received from ninety Member States. Sixty-six of these States, i.e. more than an absolute majority of the membership of the United Nations, have indicated that they find acceptable the alternative contained in paragraph 2(a) above.

Several Members have suggested that in implementation of alternative 2(a) the Secretary-General should convene a meeting of the Vice-Presidents of the twenty-third session to entrust one of them with the task of appointing the members of the special committee. In accordance with this suggestion, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to call such a meeting on Monday, 23 June, at 3.00 p.m. Invitations to the meeting will be sent separately to the seventeen Vice-Presidents.

An analysis of the replies to the Secretary-General's note of 23 May will be issued shortly as a document of the General Assembly.

18 June 1969

BR

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UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
845 Third Avenue, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

27/58/36

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-1 JUL 1969
NET18/4

25 June, 1969.

R. 3/6.

Enter

C.C. N.E.D. U.N. Lambert Esq.
UNE&S Dept.

A copy has been asked with (UL 6/11) & should arrive in its way to you via Miss W Hon

Dear John,

Special Committee on
Israeli-occupied territories

Our reporting on the discussion about how to deal with the problem of appointing the members of this Committee after the death of the President of the Assembly rests with our telegram No. 1238 of 20 June. — NET 18/4

(24)

2. As forecast in our telegram No. 1224 of 19 June, the Secretary-General convened on the afternoon of 23 June a meeting of the seventeen delegations which had provided the Vice-Chairmen of the XXIIIrd Session of the General Assembly. On the morning of that day he had circulated the text of a letter dated 19 June from the Permanent Representative of Israel which argued strongly against the proposed procedure as being unjustifiable and concluded that "no former Vice-President that exploits such a function will have any locus standi to discharge it, and any action taken in pursuance of such an alleged mandate will be ultra vires" (document A/7495/Add.1). In opening the meeting the Secretary-General spoke at some length about the constitutionality of the action he had taken in polling the membership of the United Nations and in convening the meeting of the former Vice-Presidents; he did not think the legality of the course proposed could be seriously disputed; he called for suggestions as to which of the Vice-Presidents might discharge the former President's task in selecting the members of the Special Committee.

(21)

3. It had been expected that the Philippines would propose Peru but there was a last-minute change of plan and the proposal was put forward by Mauritania, Guinea and Bulgaria. There was no formal objection and Peru was nominated.

4. There has been a good deal of doubt in the West European and Others Group and elsewhere about the legality of adopting a course of action for which no precedent or rule provides, on the basis of concurring replies to the Secretary-General's enquiry from a bare majority of the membership and in the face of strong objections from Israel. Before the group of former Vice-Presidents took their decision, the Canadian Ambassador said that he was present as a gesture of courtesy to the Secretary-General and not as a Vice-President since this function

/had

J. H. Lambert, Esq.,
U.N. (Political) Department,
F.C.O.,
London, S.W.1.

pa

Mr Applegate UNA/7
UN (Pol) Dept.

Copied on UL 6/11 folio (22)

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had come to an end: Canada thought the composition of the three-man Committee should properly be decided by the General Assembly, perhaps at its XXIVth Session. After Peru had been selected similar reservations were stated by Togo, firmly by Guyana and, very cautiously, by Sweden. We said nothing. The Americans told us that they also were unhappy about the procedure but saw no point in infuriating the Arabs by raising formal objection.

5. The upshot is that the task of trying to find countries willing to serve on the three-man Committee now falls to Peru. Having only a Chargé d'Affaires at present they have brought here for the purpose Dr. Luis Alvarado who used to be their Ambassador in Washington.

Yours ever

Tony

(A. D. Parsons)

c.c. Chanceries,
Washington
Cairo
Amman
Tel Aviv
Paris
Moscow
Beirut
Guatemala City
Lima

19 June, 1969



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With the compliments of

THE UNITED KINGDOM MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

S.L. Egerton

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845 THIRD AVENUE,
NEW YORK, N.Y.

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20 JUN 1969

J. H. Lambert, Esq.,
U.N. (Pol.) Department,
F.C.O.

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(27)

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
2 PALACE GREEN
LONDON, W.8.
TEL. 01-937 8091

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
-1 JUL 1969
NET 18/4

שגרירות ישראל
לונדון

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Israel presents his compliments to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and has the honour to forward herewith a Note from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 19 June, 1969.

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Israel avails himself of this opportunity to renew to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs the assurances of his highest consideration.

27 June 1969

p.a. W.T.

Mr. Applegarth

Z.T.

Embassy of Israel London

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
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שגרירות ישראל
לונדון

The Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his communication No. OR 421 P & P of 18 June 1969.

In a Note to the Secretary-General of 28 May 1969 (A/7 495), in reply to the Secretary-General's communication of 23 May 1969 (A/7 495), which proposed certain alternatives for the appointment of the special committee provided for in the General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, the Permanent Representative of Israel declared <u>inter alia</u>:

> "Since the 23rd session of the General Assembly was declared closed on 21 December 1968, the late President, His Excellency Mr. Emilio Arenales, was actively engaged in the consultations to which he referred in his statement at page 199 of the provisional verbatim record of the 1752nd meeting of the General Assembly on that date, with regard to the appointment of three member states to constitute a special committee established in accordance with resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968. As the Secretary-General is certainly aware, the late President approached a large number of member states, inviting them to serve on that special committee but, at the time of his death, had not been successful in those efforts on account of the refusal of a great many member states to accept such an invitation.

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Those refusals are the consequence of the arbitrary and one-sided character of General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII), which, as the record of the 17 48th plenary meeting shows, was in fact adopted by a minority of the members of the General Assembly.

"The resolution was objectionable inter alia because it contained an adverse prejudgment of the facts the committee was supposed to investigate, and because it took no account of the persecution of Jewish minorities in certain Arab countries in the Middle East area, as tragically highlighted by the recent public hangings of innocent Jews in Baghdad. It is this problem which should be the proper subject of United Nations concern, not the situation in the Israel-held areas, which in any case are open to the scrutiny and observation of tens of thousands of foreign visitors.

"The states which refused the invitations addressed to them by the late President acted in full awareness of the real nature of that resolution, as being a transparent political manoeuver and not an expression of genuine concern for the furtherance of human rights.

"In the communication addressed to the Ambassador of Israel to Guatemala on 6 March 1969, the late President of the General Assembly himself expressed his view that the establishment at that juncture of the special committee would add 'nuevos motivos de friccion a la ya tensa situacion del Mediano Oriente'. The Government of Israel fully shares that view, which is even more pertinent now than at the date of the above communication.

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"The Secretary-General's communication under reply confirms that no provision in the rules of procedure of the General Assembly regulates the situation which has come into being following the lamented death of the President of the 23rd session of the General Assembly. It appears that only changes in existing procedures would make possible further action in the matter, and in the circumstances it is the view of the Government of Israel that such changes would not be justified...

"The Government of Israel sees no reason for departing from established practices and procedures and believes that, in the light of all the circumstances, including the short period which now remains before the 24th session of the General Assembly is due to convene, there is no necessity for any of the extraordinary and largely unprecedented alternative forms of action such as are suggested in the Secretary-General's communication under reply."

Indeed, the initiative taken by the Secretary-General in his communication of 23 May 1969 was unwarrented. There is nothing in the Charter of in United Nations practice which required him to take such action. With all respect to the Secretary-General the suggestions made by him constituted dubious means to a dubious end. There was nothing urgent about the matter, it did not concern international peace and security, and it would amply have met the needs of the situation for the Secretary-General to have drawn the attention of the next regular session of the General Assembly to this matter, in his annual report.

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שגרירות ישראל
לונדון

With regard to the course of action now proposed by the Secretary-General in his communication of 18 June 1968, the Permanent Representative of Israel has the honour to state as follows:

No member state elected as a Vice-President at the 23rd session has any legal standing to assume functions exercised by the President. Firstly, under rule of procedure 31, the Vice-President ceased to hold office on 21 December 1968. Secondly, the President himself ceased to hold office under the same rule and at the same date, and could continue to perform any function thereafter only in his personal capacity and not as President.

The former Vice-Presidents as a group have no legal authority or standing to confer such a function on one of their number. Firstly, as already stated, they all ceased to hold office on 21 December 1968. Secondly, even during the session of which they are elected, the Vice-Presidents do not under the rules of procedure or existing practice constitute a collective body that can exercise any collective functions or take any collective decisions.

The Secretary-General and the Secretariat have no recognised authority to convene meetings of former Vice-Presidents as a group or to act in accordance with their decisions or recommendations.

The opinions or preferences expressed by a number of member states in response to the Secretary-General's Note cannot confer upon the Secretary-General, upon the former Vice-Presidents collectively, or upon one of their number individually powers and functions which they do not legally and constitutionally possess.

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In the view of the Israel Government, therefore, the whole process whereby the function originally entrusted to the President of the General Assembly at its 23rd session would now be "delegated" to a former Vice-President is without a legal basis at any of its stages. No former Vice-President that accepts such a function will have any "locus standi" to discharge it, and any action taken in pursuance of such an alleged mandate will be "ultra vires".

The Permanent Representative of Israel has the honour to request the circulation of this note as a document of the General Assembly.

New York

19 June 1969

Translation

No.354/4/11.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
International Organisations and
Conferences Department,
Baghdad, 23 June, 1969.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Missions Accredited to Iraq and has the honour to state that the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution, at its Twenty-third regular session, on respect for and implementation of Human Rights in occupied territories, under No. 2443 of 19 December 1968, a copy of which is enclosed herein, and that paragraphs 1 and 2 of the resolution referred to the constitution of a special committee of three Member States to investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories and to request the President of the General Assembly to appoint the members of the Committee.

However, the President ofthe General Assembly (Foreign Minister of Guatemala) died last April before completing the measures for the constitution of the special committee. Therefore, the Secretary-General addressed a Note to the Member States, No. OR 421 PXP of 23 May, 1969, a copy of which is enclosed herein, pointing out the following alternatives which may be adopted under the circumstances for the establishment of the committee in question :-

1. To convene a special session of the General Assembly to provide another method for constituting the special committee;
2. a) To find a procedure which, through its acceptance by Member States, would permit the designation of one of the Vice-Presidents to undertake the appointment of the special committee;

   b) Alternatively, and in line with the spirit of rule 30 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to ascertain from the Government of Guatemala, if possible, who would be the Chairman of that country's delegation for the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and request him to undertake the appointment of the special committee.

/In view....

In view of the considerable time and expense which the first alternative would involve, the Secretary-General found it improbable. Similarly, the Government of Guatemala expressed its inability to name the Chairman of its delegation in accordance with alternative 2 (b), therefore, the Secretary-General found the only suitable alternative is to appoint one of the Vice-Presidents to carry out this task.

In view of the foregoing, the Ministry requests the esteemed Corps to intervene with its Government for supporting the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the appointment of one of the Vice-Presidents to take charge of the task of appointing the special committee, and to communicate its view to the Secretary-General as early as possible.

The Ministry avails itself of this opportunity to express its highest consideration and esteem.

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy,
Baghdad.

18/59/25

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copy to UN (E.S) Dept.

29/6

PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

15 EAST 70TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

TRAFALGAR 9-3611

30 JUN 1969
RECEIVED UN
REGISTRY No. 10
11 JUL 1969

26 June 1969

NET 18/4

Excellency,

As your country is a member of the Economic and Social Council, I have the honour to enclose a copy of the Note I sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in reply to his Note of 9 April 1969, No. SO 234(13-3) regarding resolution 6 (XXV) adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on 3 March 1969.

N/T UN
N/R NE B

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Y. Tekoah

Yosef Tekoah
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations

H.E. The Rt. Hon. The Lord Caradon
Permanent Representative of United Kingdom
to the United Nations
845 Third Avenue
New York, New York

P.J.

INDEXED

PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

15 EAST 70TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

TRAFALGAR 9-3611

The Permanent Representative of Israel presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's Note of 9 April 1969, No. SO 234 (13-3) regarding resolution 6 (XXV) adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on 3 March 1969.

At the time, the Representative of Israel fully explained why the Government of Israel rejected that unbalanced and prejudicial resolution.

It attempted to pre-judge the very conclusions which the so-called special working group of experts was to reach.

It failed to have any regard for the vicious trampling on the human rights of the Jewish communities in certain Arab countries in the Middle East region.

It was adopted by the Commission on Human Rights by a vote of 13 in favour and one against, with 16 abstentions and two members absent. All the 13 votes in favour were cast by member states with a record of anti-Israel votes and nearly all of them are Arab or pro Arab states that do not maintain any normal relations with Israel and are consistently hostile to it.

It is clear that a resolution adopted in these circumstances is a purely propaganda exercise lacking any moral validity; and that it does not represent the views of the responsible and impartial majority of the Commission's members.

It is noted that the special working group of experts had not been completely or properly constituted when some of its members decided to despatch the letter of 9 April 1969 to the Government of Israel, which is attached to the Secretary-General's Note. It is further noted that the

resolution of the Commission on Human Rights setting up the special working group was not subsequently approved as required by various resolutions of ECOSOC, including more particularly resolution 9 (I) of 21 June 1946 and 1367 (XLV) of 2 August 1968.

In the light of the foregoing the Government of Israel wishes to inform the Secretary-General that it is unable to consider resolution 6 (XXV) as constituting a basis for co-operation on its part.

The Permanent Representative of Israel avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of his highest consideration.

New York
25 June 1969



P.R.M. Hinchcliffe,
Near Eastern Dept,
F.C.O.

pp please



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REGISTRY No. 10
- 3 JUL 1969
NET 18/4

With the compliments of

M.K. Jones

please

please see penultimate paragraph for action.

This is all water under the bridge ??

BRITISH EMBASSY
BAGHDAD

Mr. Appleyard 27.

NO Somewhere else to be involved

Yes

27 June 1969. Mr Young 9.7 Mr Hinchcliffe 4/7

UNCLASSIFIED

With the compliments of

THE UNITED KINGDOM MISSION
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

(Janet H. Unwin)

NEW YORK

Copies also sent to:

U.N. (E&S) Department,
F.C.O.

(30)

NNNN
B1 UAR FOREIGN MINISTER SEES U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

(CAIRO RADIO) UAR FOREIGN MINISTER MAHMUD RIYAD TONIGHT MET THE U.N. FACT-FINDING COMMISSION WHICH ARRIVED IN CAIRO THIS MORNING UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SENEGALESE UN DELEGATE, IBRAHIM BOYE, TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF ARAB CIVILIANS' HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

TV RADIO CORRESPONDENT HAS LEARNED THAT DURING HIS TALK WITH THE COMMISSION MEMBERS, RIYAD POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE REASONS OF PRINCIPLE BEHIND ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO PERMIT THE COMMISSION TO ENTER THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND ITS CONTINUED REJECTION OF UN RESOLUTIONS. RIYAD SAID THE MAIN REASON IS THAT ISRAEL WANTS TO ACQUIRE LAND WITHOUT A PEOPLE. THIS DRIVES IT TO COMMIT REGIONAL EXPANSION AND TO EXPEL ARAB CITIZENS FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRIHORIES BY KILLING OR TERRORISING THEM SO THAT THEY WILL LEAVE.

MF BBC MON 0035 19/8 G.T.

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
21 AUG 1969
NEA 18/4

B1 COMMISSION 2: WORLD SHOULD COMPEL ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW

THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY SHOULD STAND UP TO THE POLICY OF EXPANSION AND TERROR AGAINST PALESTINIANS. INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING A FIRM STAND AGAINST ISRAELI AGGRESSION AND SHOULD COMPEL ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW.

RIYAD ADDED THAT THERE ARE 450,000 PALESTINIAN REFUGEES IN GAZA AND MORE THAN HALF A MILLION EVACUEES FROM THE SUEZ CANAL AREA AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUED ISRAELI AGGRESSION ON ARAB TERRITORY. THE UAR WILL PLACE EVERYFACILITY AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE COMMISSION TO HELP IT ASCERTAIN THE TRUTH ABOUT ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

END BBC MON 0040 20/8 G.T. :KY)

(31)

(18/15)
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
TEL AVIV

15 August, 1969

M. Hunchcliffe MM 19/8
M. Yarnold 19.8.69.
M. Appleyard MA 21/8
pw ✓ MA 21/8
UN (PRL) Desk 25/8.

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10
21 AUG 1969
NET 18/4

Dear Department,

No doubt the Chancery at Beirut will be reporting on the activities of the special United Nations Committee which, according to reports in the Israel press, has been taking evidence there of alleged atrocities committed by the Israelis in the occupied areas.

2. Press comment here has naturally been hostile, but there has not been much of it since other matters of more interest and importance have dominated the newspapers this week. The Israel Foreign Ministry condemned the Committee's activities in an official --- statement issued two days ago. A copy is enclosed.

Yours ever,
CHANCERY

Near Eastern Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London S.W.1.

ccs: Chancery,
BEIRUT

U.K. Mission,
NEW YORK

P.a Jrcx

STATE OF ISRAEL
GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE

PRESS BULLETIN

13 AUGUST 1969

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON BEIRUT TESTIMONY:

1. THE TESTIMONY NOW BEING GIVEN IN BEIRUT BEFORE THE WORKING GROUP SET UP BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, IS NOTHING BUT A GROTESQUE EXAMPLE OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE ARABS CYNICALLY EXPLOIT INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES.

2. THE SO-CALLED TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP IS INCOMPLETE CONTRADICTION TO THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AREAS ADMINISTERED BY ISRAEL. IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT THESE ARAB-FABRICATED HORROR STORIES DESCRIBE THE SITUATION AS IMAGINED BY THE WITNESSES THEMSELVES, AS TO WHAT THEY WOULD HAVE DONE, HAD THE SITUATION BEEN REVERSED AND HAD T H E Y HELD CAPTIVE ISRAELI SABOTEURS.

IN ANY EVENT, THE STORIES ARE SURPRISINGLY SIMILAR TO DESCRIPTIONS OF METHODS OF TORTURE TAKEN FROM HORROR LITERATURE WHERE A CERTAIN TYPE OF READER IS 'ENTERTAINED' BY ALL MANNER OF THINGS.

3. THE ARAB WITNESSES' HORROR STORIES EQUAL THE FABRICATIONS AND IMAGININGS OF ARAB PROPAGANDA ON OTHER SUBJECTS, SUCH AS THEIR DESCRIPTIONS OF MILITARY INCIDENTS.

WORLD OPINION HAS LEARNED HOW TO EVALUATE SUCH STORIES, AND WILL SURELY KNOW ALSO HOW TO TREAT THE THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE NOW BEING STAGED IN BEIRUT.

4. DAILY LIFE IN THE TERRITORIES ADMINISTERED BY ISRAEL IS AN OPEN BOOK. MOVEMENT IS UNRESTRICTED, AND THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF VISITORS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE TOURING THESE AREAS, ENJOY UNRESTRICTED CONTACT WITH THE INHABITANTS.

HUNDREDS OF JOURNALISTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS AND RADIO AND TV-CORRESPONDENTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD HAVE TOURED THESE TERRITORIES SINCE JUNE 1967, VISITED TOWNS AND VILLAGES AND HELD FREE CONVERSE WITH VARIOUS ARAB DIGNITARIES.

QUITE A FEW OF THEM ALSO VISITED PRISONS, AND REPORTED ON WHAT THEY SAW THERE. THE ONE THING THE REPORTS OF OBJECTIVE OBSERVERS HAVE IN COMMON, IS THAT THE ISRAELI ADMINISTRATION REPRESENTS ONE OF THE MOST LIBERAL REGIMES THAT CAN BE IMAGINED UNDER EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

CONT'D...,

AN ORGANISATION WITH THE PRESTIGE OF 'AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL' INFORMED ISRAEL ON 17 FEBRUARY 1969:

''I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE DISCIPLINED FASHION IN WHICH THE PRISONS ARE ORGANISED AND TO SAY THAT WE ARE QUITE CONVINCED THAT THERE IS NO ILL-TREATMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER YOUR ADMINISTRATION.''

5. ISRAEL DOES NOT DOUBT THAT ALL THIS TESTIMONY BEARS MORE AUTHENTIC AND MORE RELIABLE WITNESS THAN THE STORIES OF DECLARED AND SWORN ENEMIES OF ISRAEL, TERRORISTS RELEASED FROM PRISON AND THE LIKE, OF WHOM ONLY THE MOST NAIVE COULD EXPECT AN HONEST DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION.

ALL INSINUATIONS AND STORIES OF RUMOURS HAVE NOT THE LEAST PROOF TO SUPPORT THEM. NO UNBIASED JUDGE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ADMIT THEM IN EVIDENCE.

6. THE ISRAEL GOVERNMENT DOES NOT COOPERATE WITH THE WORKING GROUP, SINCE THE LATTER'S AUTHORITY DERIVES FROM A UNILATERAL DECISION THAT DISTORTS FACTS BEFORE CHECKING THEM, AT THE SAME TIME TOTALLY DISREGARDING THE SUFFERING OF THE JEWS IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, WHO ARE PERSECUTED IN A BARBARIC MANNER RECALLING THE MIDDLE AGES, AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE RECENT PUBLIC HANGING OF JEWS IN BAGHDAD.

THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES SO FAR CONFIRM ISRAEL'S SUSPICIONS THAT THIS BODY WILL MERELY SERVE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF ARAB PROPAGANDA.

HN/HG/AR

Mr Aylward
Mr Yarrold
Enter
RB 29/8

32

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS

OF

THE CHANCERY

(P.C.Sadgrove)

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
26 AUG 1969
NET 18/4.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
BEIRUT.

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.128/69 Beirut, 24 July 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP ON ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES HEARS FIRST WITNESS

The Special Working Group of Experts* established by the Commission on Human Rights to investigate alleged violations of human rights in Israel-occupied territories in the Middle East, heard its first witness.

The witness, Burhan Hammad, representing the League of Arab States, discussed the provisions of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, as related to the actions and measures being taken by the Israel authorities with regard to the civilian population in the occupied territories.

The Commission on Human Rights, in establishing the Working Group in March 1969 authorized it to investigate allegations concerning Israel violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention in the territories which it occupied as a result of hostilities in the Middle East. (See our press release No.123/69 of 17 July 1969).

Statement by Witness

Thanking the Working Group for giving him an opportunity to testify on behalf of the League of Arab States and the Arab population, the witness, Mr.Hammad, expressed the readiness of the League to extend all possible co-operation to the Group in the discharge of its mandate. The peoples and Governments of Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the United Arab Republic would welcome the Group's forthcoming visit to their territories and its activities there, he added.

The violations committed against the human rights of the Arab civilian population by the Israel occupying authorities were both enormous and systematic, he stated. They were reflected in a number of United Nations official documents and in numerous other publications.

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* Members of the Working Group are Ibrahima Boye (Senegal), Chairman; Felix Ermacora (Austria); Branimir Jankovic (Yugoslavia); N.N. Jha (India); Luis Marchand Stens (Peru) and Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey (United Republic of Tanzania).

.2/...

All of the Arab States concerned, as well as Israel, were signatories to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, he went on. The mere fact that all of them had signed the Convention indicated "without any doubt" that they had accepted its provisions.

However, he continued, Israel's actions in the occupied territories were aimed only at achieving what was beneficial to it. Those actions adversely affected the well-being and even lives of Arab civilians, who were subjected to maltreatment including torture, destruction of property and deportation.

The witness went on to say that Israel authorities were disregarding numerous claims submitted to United Nations organs and to the Government of Israel by Governments of Member States, various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and by individuals and groups of individuals. These claims could roughly be divided into two main categories: (a) those relating to the human rights of the Arab civilian population, and (b) those relating to new legislation enacted by Israel in the occupied territories. He enumerated examples of these claims.

He stated that Israel, in its actions in the occupied territories, had been violating provisions of the Convention regarding the freedom to conduct religious services, as well as other provisions which prohibited the enactment of new legislation. Citing a number of examples, Mr.Hammad said that Israel authorities had also systematically violated those provisions of the Convention which stipulated that civilians in occupied territories should always be humanely treated and should not be subjected to moral or physical coercion.

Israel authorities repeatedly resorted to torture, interrogations, curfew and intimidation of civilians, he continued. Such measures were applied against religious leaders, teachers, doctors, leaders of women's organizations and others.

Further, he stated, Israel violated those provisions of the Convention which provided for the punishment of persons found guilty of grave breaches of the Convention. Moreover, Israel had taken no measures to distribute the text of the Convention as widely as possible, as provided for by the Convention itself.

Destruction of the property of civilians in the occupied territories was carried out widely, he said, even in the absence of military operations. He cited examples of actions by Israel occupying authorities which he described as in violation of the relevant provisions of the Convention. He added that looting of property was also widespread in the occupied territories.

The actions to be taken by the Working Group would be very important for the protection of the civilian population in the occupied territories, Mr.Hammad went on. With the help of world public opinion, those actions might convince Israel to respect the Convention and the Group's own conclusions for the sake of the well-being of defenceless civilian persons and their lives.

..3/...

Answers to Questions

In response to questions posed by members of the Group, the witness said all the examples he had cited of destruction of property had taken place after the adoption of the Security Council's cease-fire resolution of 1967.

He further said that several Jewish settlements had been set up in parts of the occupied territories,from which the local population had been deported and their houses expropriated or demolished by Israel authorities. Some prominent leaders from the West Bank of the Jordan River and from the Golan Heights had been deported to Israel. Subsequently, the Israel authorities had started to deport individuals to the East Bank or to Syria.

Answering a question concerning the position of the Israel Government with regard to allegations that human rights were being violated in the occupied territories, Mr. Hammad said the evidence of such violations was available and well documented by various organizations and individuals. However, in the face of that evidence, Israel found it more convenient to deny and reject all the allegations.

Answering another question, the witness said that the expulsion of Palestinians in the afermath of the 1947/48 conflict had been a "great injustice" involving their basic human rights, including the right to return to their homeland. As a Palestinian national, he would hope that eventually some United Nations organ, similar to the Special Working Group, would take up the question.

(UNIC)

33

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS

OF

THE CHANCERY

(P.C.Sadgrove)

Near Eastern Department,
F.C.O.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
BEIRUT.

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لأغراض وسائل الإعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release 136/69 Beirut, 7 August 1969

Miss Perera,
Copy to N.E. Dept PCJ
M. Sanders (o/c)

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP HEARS WITNESS ON CONDITIONS IN ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL

The Special Working Group of Experts+ on violations of human rights in the Arab territories occupied by Israel heard another witness, Mr. Mahmoud Nasser, 25, a law student at Cairo University. Mr. Nasser was born in Jerusalem, where his parents still live in a town nearby.

Mr. Nasser said he wanted to express a few ideas about aggression perpetrated against the occupied Arab countries and about the treatment of the peaceful Arab people by the "brutal occupying forces".

To his mind, said Mr. Nasser, the United Nations could not remain indifferent to the fact that the legal situation had been changed through military action. This was contrary to the provisions of the United Nations Charter which declares illegal any territorial gain acquired through military action, he stated.

He added that there was also the question of observance of the Geneva Convention on protection of civilians in time of war. He said that the Arab countries and Israel had signed the Convention.

Mr. Nasser requested that the Commission on Human Rights visit the occupied territories, and he challenged Israel to grant permission.

He said the Israeli Information Minister had made known

+ See our press releases Nos. 123/69, and 128/69. The experts on the Commission are:- Ibrahim Boye (Senegal), Chairman
Felix Ermacora (Austria)
Branimir Jankovic (Yugoslavia)
N.N. Jha, (India)
Louis M. Stens (Peru), and
Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey (Tanzania)

plans for 50,000 Arabs to be evicted from areas in the occupied countries. The announced budget for this plan was 40,000,000 Israeli pounds. The areas would then be resettled by Jews. The Plan had been confirmed by the Israeli Foreign Minister, said Mr. Nasser.

Mr. Nasser said that an article in the American Daily, a newspaper published in Rome, stated that Israel had come into being as a result of a United Nations resolution, yet Israel today at no time complied with United Nations resolutions.

He said that Israel continually violated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the United Nations Charter.

Mr. Nasser said that he had wished to visit his parents during the university vacation after the six-day war. Despite numerous appeals by himself and his parents, the Israelis had refused permission. They had stated that he was not of legal age and that this was against the military regulations, he added.

Mr. Nasser said that "terrible methods of torture" were used by the Israelis on Arabs suspected of opposing them. He cited the example of a girl who had been suspected of anti-Israel activities. As a result of torture, he said, she suffered from partial paralysis and a fractured spinal cord. Another suspect became blind as a result of a strong light continually projected in her eyes.

Israeli newspaper, said Mr. Nasser, had at times verified the truth of such incidents, and one paper even counselled Israel against the use of such methods.

Mr. Nasser concluded by expressing confidence that the Commission would expose and condemn Israel before the world. He also hoped that appropriate legal and economic sanctions would be imposed against Israel.

Mr. Jha (India) asked what had happened to the assets of people evicted from their places of abode.

Mr. Nasser said he did not know what criteria were used in evicting people or what happened to their property. This was done in an "arbitrary fashion, at the whim of the Israelis". Any territory they coveted they took, he added. An example was the area around the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. Homes belonging to Arabs were simply bulldozed to the ground.

UNIC

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No. 138/69 Beirut, 12 August 1969

Miss Peirce,
Gyg to N.E.
Dept. Tel
pg Noire

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP BEGAN ITS SESSION IN BEIRUT

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israel-occupied territories, began its two-day session in Beirut (Lebanon) on 11 August by hearing 2 witnesses in the morning and 8 witnesses in the afternoon on matters within its mandate.

M. Sanders (o/o)

In establishing the Working Group in March 1969, the Commission on Human Rights authorized it to investigate the allegations concerning Israel's violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (at 12 August 1949) in the territories occupied by Israel.

Before the meeting, members of the Group were received by Joseph SALEM, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon.

The Working Group will meet again at 10.00 a.m., 12 August to continue hearing of witnesses.

Composition of the Group

The Special Working Group of Experts is composed of the following members of the Commission on Human Rights, serving in their personal capacity:

Ibrahim BOYE, Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations, Chairman-Rapporteur; Felix ERMACORA, Professor of Public Law, University of Vienna, Austria; Branimir JANKOVIC, Professor of International Law, Belgrade University, Yugoslavia, Vice-Chairman; N.N. JHA, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations; Luis MARCHAND-STENS, Professor of International Law and Minister in the Peruvian Embassy at Washington, D.C.; and Waldo E. WALDRON-RAMSEY, Barrister-at-Law and Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations.

However, due to various reasons, Messrs. Jankovic, Marchand-Stens and Waldo-Ramsey were not able to arrive to Beirut.

Before its arrival in Beirut, the Working Group heard 3 witnesses in the course of its session in New York and hold consultations with Claude Pilloud, Director of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Geneva.

.../2

On 13 August the expert body will leave for Damascus.(Syria) where it will have two-day session. In the course of its investigations, the Group will visit also Amman (Jordan) and Cairo (United Arab Republic).

Testimony received at Morning Meeting

The first witness heard on 11 August.

George Dib, 38, assistant professor of political sciences in the Lebanese University and research worker for the Palestinian Research Centre, informed the Group of the results of his "systematic study" of the situation in the Israel-occupied territories carried out with the help of two investigating teams. The study, he said, included taking of 200 personal testimonies, examination of newspaper reports and all the available documentation relating to the matter.

As a result, he came to the conclusion that not only the 1949 Geneva Convention, but also some other relevant international legal instruments were being violated by the Israel occupying authorities "almost daily", he stated.

The data collected in the course of the study might be grouped under such four broad headings: wilful mass and individual killings, demolition of houses, destruction of property and eviction of Arabs and settlement of Jews in their stead.

Mr. Dib referred to a number of examples and figures as indicating not only the "flagrant violation" of the relevant international instruments but also "the Israel policy of annexation by virtue of which the elementary human rights of Arab civilian population were ignored".

Ibrahim Al-Abid, 27, research assistant, the Palestine Research Centre, stated that Israel violated not only the 1949 Geneva Convention but also several other relevant international instruments.

Quoting from Israel newspapers' reports and the Red Cross documentation, he submitted information on ill-treatment, torture and wilful killing of political prisoners by Israel authorities; intimidation, arrests and terrorization of Arab civilian population; forced deportation of civilians; and attacks on hospitals and their personnel.

In particular, he handed over to the Group a list of 32 persons who had been tortured by Israel in prison and were "ready to testify before the Group". The witness also had"a long list" of persons who had been deported and a list of 3176 persons whose houses had been demolished, he said.

Testimony by Eight Witnesses

Assad Abdel Rahman, a member of Palestine resistance movement, whose number as a political detainee was 293, told the story of his imprisonment in 1968 for "infiltration and membership in the underground organization".

.../3

He stated, that various methods of physical and psychological torture of political prisoners were used by Israelis "skilfully" and resulted, in particular, in "partial paralysis and complete nervous breakdown" of the victims.

Emile El Ghoury, 63; lawyer, member of the Jordanian Parliament and former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, gave the evidence regarding the situation in the city after its occupation by Israel armed forces in June 1967. He personally saw "hundreds of women and children mercilessly killed" by Israeli soldiers for no apparent reason, he said, and handed over to the Group a list of 180 such victims. He also quoted several figures indicating the magnitude of destruction expropriation and looting of Arab property in Jerusalem.

Sheikh Machkour El Daman, 50, mufti of the city of Nablus, stated that the attitude of Israel women soldiers towards the moslem shrine of the city and other religious institutions was "shocking" to the local population and caused frictions between Arab and Jewish communities in this "conservative" city.

Adib el Abouic, 49, interpreter and former police officer in the city of Jerusalem, spoke of the "great" hardships and sufferings of his family and himself when they left the city immediately after the beginning of its occupation by Israel armed forces.

Sami Queida, 45, former secretary of the municipality of Jericho city, testified that soon after the occupation of the city, his family and himself left their home, because they "were scared". En route they were attacked by Israel's jet fighters with napalm bombs and machine-guns fire. His youngest daughter was killed on the spot, while many members of his family and himself were wounded and got skin-burns. At one moment, the distance between the attacking plane and his family was "barely 5 meters", and he and his son saw the pilot laughing, the witness said.

Mahmoud Saleh Seif, 47, secretary of the Islamic Association in Jericho city, stated that immediately after the occupation of the city Israel soldiers began to loot shops owned by Arabs. Also, he personally saw about 40 corpses lying in the local banana plantation.

Moussa Abou-soud, 45, member of the Council for Education of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon, told how 14 houses which belonged to his family had been demolished by Israel army in Jerusalem. Commenting on other cases of destruction of houses, he said that he was certain that many invalids sick and old persons were unable to leave their houses before demolition and were buried under the debris of their dwellings. The witness also stated that Israel authorities and soldiers prevented Arab people to enter mosques to pray, while sheikhs were prevented from carrying out their functions.

Mahmoud Chabine, 16, student, said that in Gaza Strip, Israel armed forces killed about 5000 persons, both military and civilians, in the first days of occupation. He saw Israel tanks rolling over the soldiers of the Palestinian liberation army who already laid down their weapons and surrendered.

.../4

He also told the story of brutal reprisals against young Arabs, students of a local school, who organized demonstration protesting against the withdrawal by Israel authorities of Arabic text-books and their intention to introduce Hebrew.

UNIC

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
21 AUG 1969
NET 18/4

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS

OF

THE CHANCERY

(P.C.Sadgrove)

Near Eastern Department,
F.C.O.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
BEIRUT.

23 August, 1969.

Press Release No. 139/69 Beirut, 13 August 1969

Min Affairs, Egypt to N.E. Egypt + Chana. Tel Aviv

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP HEARS 4 MORE WITNESSES . LEAVES FOR DAMASCUS

The UN Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israel-occupied Territories, Tuesday, 12 August concluded its two-day session in Beirut (Lebanon) after hearing a total of 14 witnesses. At its last meeting on Tuesday, 12 August, the Group heard 2 witnesses in public and 2 witnesses in camera.

pfordgroup 22/8

M. Saadeh (Cyp.)

On Wednesday, 13 August, the expert body left for Damascus for the purpose of hearing further witnesses and receiving other evidences on the matters within its mandate. Its meetings in Damascus are scheduled for 13 and 14 August. The Working Group will proceed then to Amman (Jordan) and Cairo (United Arab Republic) for the same purpose.

In establishing this body in March 1969, the Commission on Human Rights authorized it to investigate the allegations concerning Israel's violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in the territories occupied by Israel.

TESTIMONIES OF WITNESSES HEARD IN PUBLIC-

Mrs. Najla S. Saab, President of the National Council of Lebanese Women and President of the National Committee of Human Rights, was the first witness heard by the Working Group in public at its meeting on 12 August.

Mrs. Najla S. Saab stated that it was the policy of Israel occupying authorities which gave birth to the Lebanese Committee of Human Rights. As a result of the 1967 war in the Middle East, she went on to say, the Palestinian people was left homeless, without land and even identity. However, the best part of the people, realising that liberation of Palestine was a cornerstone of peace and progress in the area, fought against zionist aspirations of Israel. These people were seeking to achieve that all the inhabitants of the area -- jews, moslems and christians -- live together in peace and dignity, she said.

.../2

Israel persisted in her zionist expansionist policies, and this very morning the Lebanese Committee of Human Rights had to meet in hospital with civilians - victims of the yesterday's air-raid by Israel planes in southern part of Lebanon. As a result of that air-raid, several persons were injured, including a women who died of napalm burns later, the witness stated.

Mrs. Nancy Abi-Haidar, 41, housewife, a U.S. national, living in Beirut, stated that she had been in Jerusalem until 18 June and returned there again for a week in July 1967.

It was her "strong" feeling immediately after the end of the 1967 war, various international relief agencies, including the Red Cross, could not provide the amount of help which was required in the situation when"thousands of people were looking for food, and some of them had no shelter above their heads", she said. One of the reasons for this might be that the Israeli authorities considered the relief work unnecessary.

The representatives of the Red Cross in Jordan tried to cross the Jordan River but were shot at and could not get into the city. In the absence of the relief work, only some local, church based groups undertook a relief work on their own, she said.

When she returned to the city in July, the Red Cross already managed to set up its office manned with 3 people. One of these persons told her that the Red Cross was not going to provide relief assistance, though such assistance was still needed "on a vast scale", Mrs. Abi-Haidar said.

What also "struck" her most in that period was "disrespect to property" whether it belonged to Arabs, United Nations or Americans, she went on to say. Nothing was safe from wilful looting and destruction, and the examples of this she saw "over and over again". One of these examples related to an orphanage flying the Red Cross flag, which, nevertheless, was shot at by Israel soldiers, whom it was told that only children and women inhabited the place. As a result, "a great damage" was done to school-equipment in the orphanage.

The witness spoke also of "concerted effort by the occupation authorities to humiliate Arabs, to disgust them and to treat them as inferiors." Such an attitude seemed evident in many different ways, and, she believed, did not cease till now. The purpose of such attitude towards Arabs was to make their life "intolerable", she stated.

In addition to two witnesses who testified in camera, the group also heard an interview with father William Casey, a Jesuit priest from Boston College, who came to Jerusalem on 20 June 1967.

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The interview was taken in January 1969 by an American living in Beirut and was recorded on tape. Father William Casey said in particular that Israel won the 1967 war but was "fast loosing the peace."

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.137/69

Beirut, 8 August 1969

Min Presse
Copy to N.E. Dept.
Tel Aviv PCS
M. Sanders (o/o)

SPECIAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL WILL ARRIVE IN BEIRUT ON SUNDAY 10 AUGUST 1969

The six-member Special Working Group of Experts* set up by the Commission on Human Rights to investigate alleged violations of human rights in territories occupied by Israel will arrive in Beirut at 17:40 p.m. on Sunday 10 August 1969.. It left New York on 30 July for Geneva, where it holds meetings from 1 to 9 August.

At meetings at United Nations Headquarters, which concluded on 30 July, the Group has organized its work and has heard three witnesses on the question before it. During the meetings abroad, it will hear further witnesses and gather other information relating to the matter.

Meetings in the Middle East

Following its meetings in Geneva, the Special Working Group of Experts plans to proceed to Beirut, Lebanon, where it will meet on 11 and 12 August. According to the itinerary, meetings will be held in Damascus, Syria, on 13 and 14 August; in Amman, Jordan, 16-18 August; and in Cairo, United Arab Republic, 20-23 August.

This itinerary was decided upon by the Working Group at a closed meeting on 8 July following the receipt of communications from the Governments concerned. In response to a request by the Group, the Governments of Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the United Arab Republic stated that they would extend full co-operation to the experts in carrying out their task.

The Government of Israel, in its communication, said it was unable to consider that resolution 6 (XXV) of the Human Rights Commission constituted a basis for extending co-operation to the Group.

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* See our Press Releases Nos.123, 128, 135 and 136.

.2/...

Resolution Establishing Working Group

In its resolution 6 (XXV), adopted on 4 March 1969, the Human Rights Commission expressed its deep concern about the reported continuation of human rights violations in territories occupied by Israel as a result of hostilities in the Middle East, and noted Israel's refusal to abide by decisions of United Nations organs on this question.

The Commission reaffirmed the "inalienable right" of all inhabitants who had left since the outbreak of hostilities to return to their countries, and called on the Government of Israel immediately to carry out United Nations resolutions to this effect.

In particular, the Commission deplored Israel's "acts of destroying homes of Arab civilian population, deportation of inhabitants and the resorting to violence against inhabitants expressing their resentment to occupation", and called upon the Israeli Government to end such acts immediately.

Expressing "its deep concern" at Israel's refusal to abide by the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, the Commission called upon the Government of Israel "to fully respect and apply that Convention".

The Commission decided to include the question of human rights in the occupied territories "as a separate item of priority" on the agenda of its next session (1970).

By the same resolution, the Commission set up the Special Working Group of Experts to investigate allegations concerning Israel's violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (of 12 August 1949) in the territories occupied by Israel.

For this purpose, the Commission authorized the Working Group to receive communications, to hear witnesses and use such modalities of procedure as it deemed necessary.

Finally, it asked the new body to submit a report, together with its conclusions and recommendations, to the next session of the Commission (1970).

Background on Geneva Convention

The 1949 Geneva Convention aims at ensuring the safety, welfare and dignity of civilian population in time of armed conflicts and/or occupation.

Article 27 of the Convention states, in particular, that "protected persons are entitled, in all circumstances, to respect for their persons, their honour, their family rights, their religious convictions and practices and their manners and customs. They shall at all times be humanely treated, and shall be protected especially against all acts of violence of threats..."

.3/...

The Convention, which contains 159 articles, expressly prohibits such acts as physical or moral coercion against protected persons (article 31); the inflicting of physical suffering or the extermination of protected persons (article 32); collective penalties, intimidation, terrorism, pillage or reprisals against protected persons and their property (article 33); and the taking of hostages from among such persons (article 34).

"Protected persons," according to the definition in the Convention, are "those who, at a given moment and in any manner whatsoever, find themselves, in case of conflict or occupation, in the hands of a Party to the conflict or occupying Power to which they are not nationals" (article 4).

Activities of Ad Hoc Working Group

In setting up the Special Working Group of Experts, the Human Rights Commission decided that the Group should have the same membership as the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts established in March 1967 by the Commission to investigate treatment of prisoners who were victims of the apartheid policy of the Government of South Africa.

Composition of Working Groups

Both Working Groups are composed of the following members of the Commission on Human Rights, serving in their individual capacity:

Ibrahima Boye, Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations, Chairman-Rapporteur;

Felix Ermacora, Professor of Public Law, University of Vienna, Austria;

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Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations.

(UNIC)

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Press Release No.135/69 Beirut, 7 August 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP HEARS MOHAMMED MEHDI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF AMERICAN ARAB RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL

Mr Perez, Copy to N.E. Desk PG

Mr Sanders (.)

The Special Working Group of Experts* investigating alleged violations of human rights in Israel-occupied territories heard on 29 July its second witness since it began meeting at Headquarters on 30 June. (See Press Releases Nos.123 and 128).

The witness, Mohammed Mehdi, 41, Secretary-General of the Action Committee on American-Arab Relations, gave information on what he described as the "harsh" treatment of the Arab civilian population by Israel occupying authorities in the Middle East.

Statement by Witness

Noting that Israel had failed to appear before the Working Group and refused to co-operate with it, the witness, Mr.Mehdi, stated that this deplorable fact indicated the importance of the Group's endeavour.

He said the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War -- alleged violations of which the Group has been authorized to investigate -- dealt with two aspects of the subject: the rights of the occupying Power and the rights of the civilian population in occupied territories. With reference mainly to the latter aspect of the Convention but with due regard to its first aspect concerning the security of the occupying Power, he wished to present to the Group some new facts concerning the violations of rights of Arabs in the occupied territories, as reported by many prominent Western newsmen. These facts involved deportation, intimidation and terrorizing of the populace, the demolition and confiscation of their property, and many other acts, "the list of which had no end".

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* Members of the Working Group are Ibrahima Boye (Senegal), Chairman; Felix Ermacora (Austria); Branimir Jankovic (Yugoslavia); N.N. Jha (India); Luis Marchand Stens (Peru), and Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey (United Republic of Tanzania).

.2/...

A number of prominent journalists from the United States and the United Kingdom, he stated, had reported on measures of collective punishment undertaken by Israel authorities against the civilian population, especially Palestine refugees. Curfews had been imposed during which no distribution of water or food was allowed. There were reports that people were sometimes deprived of water and food for 12 hours. Refugees were not permitted to leave the grounds of their camps during the curfew -- a restriction which Mr.Mehdi described as "a clear violation" of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention and an instance of the usual pattern of treatment of refugees by the Israel administration.

As to the demolition of Arab property, the witness said that, according to the Christian Science Monitor, the number of houses destroyed by Israelis totalled 5,542. In addition, a great number of stores and other businesses had been demolished or taken away from their Arab owners. Destruction of Arab property, including houses, was being carried out for "political and nationalistic" reasons rather than in the interests of the security of the Israel armed forces.

Referring to another report about the bulldozing of the house of an Arab woman, the witness said this too was a violation of the human rights of the Arab population, committed by the Israelis on religious grounds. Israelis were now doing against Arabs the same things that Nazis had done against Jews in Europe during World War II.

Mr. Mehdi expressed the view that the present mandate of the Working Group referring to "the territories occupied by Israel as a result of hostilities in the Middle East", had been drafted rahter "vaguely" because it failed to indicate what hostilities were referred to. He suggested that the mandate covered not only the events which had taken place after the hostilities of 1967 but "the entire area of Palestine" during the whole period of human rights violations. Peace in the area could not be achieved, if the Working Group failed to investigate the matter of violations of human rights "in all totality and in the whole area", he added.

In this connexion, he suggested that the Working Group hear the leaders of various Arab liberation movements, because those persons were concerned with the human rights of the Palestine Arabs and other Arabs in the occupied territories.

Answering questions put to him by members of the Group, the witness said the harsh treatment to which the Arab population was subjected in the occupied territories after the end of the six-day war in 1967 had nothing to do with the security interests of the occupying Power, but rather was motivated by the intention to terrorize people and eventually evict them from their lands. Such treatment was being meted out in line with an "over-all political design" to establish a Jewish State in the Arab lands.

(UNIC)

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لأغراض وسائل الإعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.137/69 Beirut, 8 August 1969

Min Pierce
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Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations.

(UNIC)

(35)

(18/13)

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 110
28 AUG 1969
NET 18/4.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
AMMAN.

22 August, 1969.

RESTRICTED

Dear Peter,

U.N. Human Rights Committee

I attach a minute by John Shepherd about this.

2. I had Challis to lunch and he spoke in similar terms: he had been deeply disturbed by the evidence he had heard presented (he emphasized that he was a seasoned and hard-headed reporter with no axe to grind). He showed me half a dozen pièces he had done on the subject and expressed concern that the B.B.C. had used none of them. There seemed to be a conspiracy of silence about colonial-type crimes which would, if committed by anyone else, have aroused a storm of protest in the West.

3. I have no evidence, one way or the other, to support or invalidate Challis's impressions, which I report for what they are worth.

Yours ever,

Ben

(B. L. Strachan)
Chargé d'Affaires

J. P. Tripp, Esq.,
Near Eastern Department,
F.C.O.

cc. Chanceries Cairo, Beirut, Tel Aviv, UKMIS New York, Washington and H.M. Consulate-General Jerusalem.

It is a relief to know that the BBC is still being accused by the Arabs as pro-Israel at the same time as the Israelis accuse it of being anti-Israel. I hope that Tel Aviv (to whom this has been copied) have taken note

27.8.

RESTRICTED

Mr [illegible] 26/8
Mr [illegible]
U.N. [illegible] 27.8. 29/8
News Dept [illegible] Dept.
I quite agree with Mr. Evans
Eric.
4/9

P. A. 29.

I have read a good deal in The Times about evidence given to the Committee (some, if not all, of it from Mr Manning). I am sure we should say nothing either to The Times or to the B.B.C.

R. M. Evans
27.8.

Roland Challis and Paul Martin

i) The U.N. Human Rights Committee

Challis told me that a member of the Committee had said to him, before they left Damascus, rather indiscreetly: "We don't need to go any further; we've got enough evidence already". Both he and Martin were very much affected by listening to the evidence: their personal opinions (independently expressed) were that they had no doubt whatsoever that the stories were largely true and that the Israelis should be pilloried for their crimes. Martin said he knew the Geneva Convention quite well, and the Israelis were guilty of repeated breaches.

ii) The B.B.C. and The Times

Both correspondents felt that their respective editors gave far too much weight to the Israeli version even of internal Arab events. Martin especially said he was often in despair as Moshe Brilliant's stories get priority over his own every time. Both hoped that the stories on this UN Committee might help to change editorial policy.

iii) Arafat

Martin had a midnight session with Arafat, whom he found more self-confident than on previous occasions; he found him vague, philosophical and "Christ-like"(!)

iv) UAR/Jordan

Challis, who is based in Cairo asked me if the Jordanians knew just how readily the Egyptians would ditch them and the Palestinians if the chance arose.

Shai a good ring!
R.E.
2/9.

(J. A. Shepherd)
19 August, 1969.

Chargé d'Affaires

Ed (2829)

For use of information media - not an official record
وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.143/69 Beirut 20 August 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP CONTINUES ITS HEARINGS IN AMMAN

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israel occupied territories continued its hearings of witnesses on the afternoon of 16 August and at two meetings on 17 August. A total of 12 witnesses gave their evidences at two meetings.

Bishop N.J. Simaan of the Roman Catholic Church and Archbishop of Hicrapolis and all the Eastern Bank of Jordan, Archbishop Thiodoros of the Greek Orthodox Church spoke of profanation desecration of Catholic and Orthodox places of worship in Jerusalem by Israeli soldiers and civilians who committed such acts as indecent dressing, spitting on the sacred articles and drinking whisky, immoral acts within churches and using church premises for lavatories. Some Orthodox and Catholic churches in Jerusalem were looted and damaged. Zionization of Jerusalem signified the end of Christianity in the city, Bishop N.J. Simaan stated.

The Reverend Father Elia Khoury, a priest of the Anglican Church, said that while in the occupied territory of Ramallah he had seen numerous acts of merciless individual and collective sanctions against innocent people, school girls, villagers - undertaken by occupying authorities for no apparent reason whatsoever. Three villages of Yalu, Beit Huba and Emmaus, where no fighting took place during the 1967 war were levelled to the ground, and three months after the war he saw "only the site" of the places where the villages used to be. Father Elia Khoury went on to say that he saw some inhabitants of these villages sleeping in the streets of Ramallah and having nothing to eat or cover themselves.

Such an Attitude towards Arabs on the part of Israel occuping authorities reminded him of Nazism and its policy of mass extermination of Jews, the witness said, who himself spent 48 days in Ramallah prison "under spiritual torture which was stronger than a physical one".

Ruhy Khatib, 55, who called himself to be "still a Mayor of Jerusalem", said that he would not speak of his own deportation from his house and expulsion from his homeland, nor about individual cases of sufferings he would testify on the matter of collective measures taken by Israel

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occupying authorities against the City and its population because the case of Jerusalem was "the key to the solution of the whole Palestine issue", while the present situation in the City represented a striking example of Israel policies.

The witness went on to say that the collective measures taken by Israel Authorities might be classified along the following lines: annexation of Jerusalem; dissolution of its Municipal Council; confiscation and demolition of Arab property; changing of the existing laws and their replacement by Israel legislation; registration of Arabs. All the acts represented "serious violation" of the relevant provisions of the 1949 Geneva Convention. However, annexation was "the most serious violation" of the Geneva Convention, sovereign rights of the United Nations Member States as well as of the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and Security Council.

Mr. Khatib substantiated his statement by documantation, maps, diagrams and photos.

Retired Major Derek Cooper, 58, a British National, testifying on the matter of mass expulsion of Arabs from the occupied territories, said that "there was no doubt in his mind whatsoever" that Israel beforehand had plans to press Arab population with a view to making them leave Palestine and other territories.

Mrs. Abla Taha, 25, housewife, said that she was arrested in July 1968 on charges of carrying explosives when she was one-month pregnant. She was kept in various prisons for seven months and was subjected to prolonged sessions of interrogation and moral and physical torture, including "certain sexual perversions" by a group of Israel prostitutes put into her cell. In February 1969 she was released and "forcibly expelled" to Jordan. As a result of beatings and other tortures she delivered "an abnormal child", she said.

Mohammed Hijami, 30, physician, introduced to the Group a report of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society conerning violations of human rights of Arab civil population by the Israeli occupying authorities.

Salah Anabtawi, 50, physician and deportee himself, stated that Israel "resolved to expel a good number of politicians and public figures" to the East Bank of Jordan River, Israel did that "in cruel, inhuman way", "wilfully ignoring and defying all international laws and conventions", he said.

Ibrahim Abu Sheiban, 27, former policeman, who appeared with his younger brother Fayez 12 years, told the Group how in July 1967 he found his father and two other brothers dead under the ruins of demolished building in Jerusalem. "In all, some 74 bodies were discovered on that day" under the ruins of buildings demolished by Israeli troops, he said.

Tahsin Nabulsi, 35, lawyer spoke of different methods resorted to by the Israel occupying authorities with a view to expelling people from the occupied territories. He was expelled from his native place "together with one million of Palestinians" The Group also heard two other witnesses in a closed session".

(UNIC)

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لأغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.142/69 Beirut, 20 August 1969

Miss Peirce,
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Tel Aviv, Amman,
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Mr Sanders.

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP BEGINS ITS SESSION IN AMMAN

The Special Working Group of Experts to envestigate the alleged violations of human rights in Israel-occupied territories, on Saturday 16 August began its three-day session in Amman (Jordan) by hearing two witnesses at its morning meeting held in the Cooperative Institute in Jordan.

Before the meeting, members of the Group were received by Abdul Moneim Rifai, Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, and by Ahmed Touqan, Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan. Mr. Abdul Moneim Rifai said in particular, that on behalf of the people and Government of Jordan, he would like to welcome the Working Group to his country "as messengers of human rights". Jordanian refugees and inhabitants of occupied territories had "nothing to protect them, except the consciousness of mankind" he added.

The witnesses heard by the Group at its first meeting in Amman were: Anton Attalla, 71, lawyer and member of the Upper Chamber of Jordanian Parliament (the Senate); and Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayeh, 62, Chief of Islamic Tribunals in Jordan.

In establishing the six member Special Working Group of Experts in March 1969, the Commission on Human Rights authorized it to investigate the allegations concerning Israel's violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war.

During its stay in Amman from 16 to 18 August, the Expert Body was scheduled to have two meetings a day: one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

On 19 August it proceeded to Cairo for the final leg of its investigating mission. The meetings in Cairo are scheduled for 20-23 August. Before arrival to Amman on 15 August, the Working Group heard 36 witness in New York, Geneva, Beirut and Damascus.

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Testimony by Witnesses.

The first witness, Mr.Atalla said that there were numerous witnesses in Jordan who might substantiate the evident fact that "all the provisions of the Geneva Convention" were being constantly violated, because Israel authorities "never intended to abide" by the provisions of the Convention. They told the International Committee of the Red Cross that Israel wished to leave open "for the time being" the question of application of the Geneva Convention.

The witness went on to describe humiliating and degrading treatment to which he was subjected in Jerusalem in the first days of occupation despite his age and position.

He further said that Israel authorities had issued an administrative order allegedly designed to reunify the City of Jerusalem but actually intended to carry out the annexation not only of the Arabic part of the City but also of some areas on the Western Bank of Jordan River. They brought 60,000 to 70,000 Jews to the outskirts of the City who were never within the boundaries of Jerusalem. This act of the so called reunification constituted a clear violation of the Geneva Convention. He also termed as violation of the Convention and of International Law in general, the recently passed Israel legislation designed to introduce Israel's Civil and Penal Law and procedures in the Arab. sector of Jerusalem immediately after the occupation of Jerusalem, all public schools were incorporated into Israel system of education, he said.

The second witness, Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayeh, said that since the beginning of 1967 war violations of human rights of Arabic population and of the Geneva Convention especially with regard to holy places, appeared to intensify. The witness went on to describe various methods of defiance and humiliation of the religious feelings of Moslem population in the occupied territories, which were resorted to by the Israeli authorities. He stated that on 23 September 1967, on the personal order of Moshe Dayan, Israel's Defence Minister, he was expelled from Jerusalem "unceremoniously", because, he believed, he refused to co-operate with Israeli authorities.

(UNIC)

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.144/69 Beirut, 21 August 1969

Mme Poirier,
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HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP CONCLUDES ITS SESSION IN AMMAN AND LEAVES FOR CAIRO

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in Israel occupied territories on Monday, 18 August concluded its three-day session in Amman (Jordan) in the course of which it heard a total of 24 witnesses and received a number of documents on the matters under its mandate.

During the stay in Amman, members of the Group were received by Prime Minister Bahjat El Talhouni, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Abdul Moneim Rifai and by Deputy Premier Ahmed Touqan of Jordan. Receiving the Group on 18 August, Prime Minister Bahjat El Talhouni said that the extent of tragedy suffered by Arab people due to the Israeli aggression had no similar precedents in history. However, since the 1967 conflict "we continue to see" that Israel was being supported by supplying it with such weapons which enabled it to commit further offences, the Premier said.

On Tuesday 19 August the Group left for Cairo (United Arab Republic), the final leg of its investigating mission, where it will have its meetings on 20-23 August. Before arrival to Amman, the Group held its hearings in New York, Geneva, Beirut and Damascus, where a total of 36 persons gave their evidences.

Testimonies Heard on 18 August

In the course of its two last meetings on 18 August, the Expert Body heard 10 witnesses.

Ibrahim Mustafa Ibrahim 52, Mukhtar of the village of Umwas, testified on the matter of complete demolition of three villages by the Israeli occupying authorities. His statement was substantiated by Sister Mary Terese, 41, a French national and by the Reverend Ganthier, 54, also a French national and Catholic priest.

Al Atrash, 28, driver, said that during his six months imprisonment in the occupied territories he was beaten severly by sticks and subjected to

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ther inhuman methods of interrogation. As a result, his left arm was oken, his chest was slashed across by bayonets and a tooth was broken. Due to the good offices of the Red Cross he was released and deported to the United Arab Republic. The witness also said that one of his brothers was killed in his presence and his father died while Israeli soldiers were demolishing their house.

A girl of seven years was then brought before the Group and demonstrated her skin burns by Napalm bombs near Jericho on 7 June 1967.

Khalid Hassan, 41, member of the Executive Committee of Palestinian Liberation Organization, presented a memorandum on behalf of his Organization, while Ahmed Abu Kurah, 50, Chairman of the Jordanian Red Crescent Society, provided information on numerous cases of violation of human rights of Arab civilian and prisoners of war by the Israeli occupying authorities.

Ismael Abu Mayalah 26, laundry man and member of the resistance movement, submitted a written statement of arrest, imprisonment and interrogation of his wife and himself. He added that his brother, who was a Commanding Officer in resistance, was "completely smashed" after his arrest, while other members of his family were missing.

Sheikh Abu Rashed, 54, Tribe Chief in Gaza Strip said that at one moment during his eleven months imprisonment he was placed in a cell near the investigating chamber, and that he could not sleep because of cries of prisoners under torture. He himself was beaten by fists and sticks.

The last witness Abu Rahman Ahmad Naser, 11, schoolboy, said that many adults in his camp were taken away and shot dead "in cold blood" at the rubbish heap and then their bodies were buried by bulldozer.

(UNIC)

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لأغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.145/69 Beirut, 22 August 1969

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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP BEGINS SESSION IN CAIRO

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in Israel occupied territories, on 20 August began its four day session in Cairo (United Arab Republic) by hearing 16 witnesses at its two meetings held in the building of the Arab League.

On 19 August, the day of arrival of the Group in Cairo, its members were received by Mahmoud Riad, UAR Foreign Minister. Welcoming the Group with its "humanitarian mission" Mr. Riad said that Israel's policy of expansion should be checked and stopped. However, the present "dangerous situation" might continue to exist until "western imperialism and United States" would stop supporting Israel by money and arms, the Foreign Minister said.

Before the first meeting, members of the Group were also received by Hafez Aly Badawi, UAR Minister for Social Affairs.

Cairo is the final leg of the present investigation trip of the Group. Before arrival in Cairo, it received testimony for a total of 60 persons in New York, Geneva, Beirut, Damascus and Amman. The Group is scheduled to meet in New York in January 1970 to prepare report on the results of its investigations to be submitted to its parent body - The Commission on Human Rights.

Testimony of Witnesses

The sixteen witnsses heard by the Working Group at its two meetings on 20 August are; Abdul Melek Ghoubriel, 38, physician, who worked in El Arish Hospital in Gaza Strip; 15 year old Kamilia Kamal El Zarbawy, schoolgirl; Sheikh Suleiman Moussa Ibrahim, 50, Tribal Chief; Sheikh Selim Guma Ghorab, Chief of Dawafra Tribe at Mousfig, Gaza; Mrs. Nargis El Sayed Ibrahim, 37, no occupation; Sheikh Elim Ali El Hersch, 55, Tribal Chief; Mrs.Watfa Hassan Ammar, from village of Roumana; Yehia Abu Saehla, 29, Deputy Attorney of Gaza Court; Miss Aisha Awad Hagaza, 18, no occupation; Miss Fayhaa Abdel Hadi, 18, student; Rateb Saleh El Bek, 67, former railway employee in Kantara East; Mrs. Dawlat El Sayed Allam, 35, housewife; Mrs Fatma Mohamed

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Abdalla, 35, housewife; Mahmoud Abdel Monem Orouk, 52, employee of Sanitary Department; Abdel Aziz Suliman Marzouk, 58, Mayor of Al Hat Village; Suleiman Mahmoud El Yamana, 34, Tribal Chief in Sinai.

The witnesses gave a picture of the policy of Israeli authorities in the occupied territories of Gaza Strip and Sinai, the policy of mass atrocities, humiliation, murder and expulsion.

The first witness Abdul Melek Choubreil said that from December 1967 to September 1968 his hospital had 40 admissions a day, including 10 admissions of persons who were subjected to tortures.

Kamilla Kamal El Zarbawy testified that as a result of shooting at her leg, on 7 June 1967, she was now paralysed and could not walk without outside support. Her mother and brother were beaten by Israeli soldiers and the brother's leg was broken. Israeli soldiers also killed several of her relatives.

Another girl, Aisha Aqad Hegazi, demonstrated her artificial right arm, because her natural arm was severely cut off at hospital after being shot at by an Israeli soldier. She also said that she was shot at her knee. Her father was killed by soldiers when he went to open the door of their house, while her brother and uncle were severely beaten.

Miss Fayha Abdel Mady described tortures to which she and other girls, prisoners of Nablus and Jerusalem prisons, were subjected by Israeli interrogators. She said that interrogators tried to beat them on the most sensitive parts of the body "especially on sexual organs". The witness was arrested on 14 March 1969 on charge of being a member of the resistance movement.

Sheikh Selim Guma Ghorab, Chief of Dongra Tribe, spoke of demolishing houses, schools and mosques by Israeli soldiers using bulldozers and dynamite.

Rateb Saleh el Bek said that while in prison, he was subjected to tortures, his house was blown up with dynamite and he had lost everything, including his home land, because he and his family were expelled by Israeli occupying authorities to Egypt.

Mrs. Nargis El Sayed Ibrahim told the Group that entering her house, Israeli soldiers slitted her husband's throat with bayonet and then dragged his body down the staircase outside the house. Blood stains were "still seen on the stone floor of the bedroom" she said. The right arm of her 7 year old son was dislocated when an Israeli soldier, searching for jewellery violently pushed him aside.

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.147/69 Beirut, 26 August 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP CONCLUDES ITS SESSION IN CAIRO

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israeli occupied territories, on Saturday 23 August, concluded its four-day session in Cairo (United Arab Republic) and thus concluded its present investigation mission.

In Cairo the Group held five meetings and heard a total of 39 witnesses. In addition, it received a number of documents relating to its mandate. Closing the present series of meetings, Ibrahima Boye, Chairman-Rapporteur of the Group, expressed sincere gratitude to the Governments of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the United Arab Republic and all the authorities of these countries, which extended their help and co-operation to the Working Group in fulfilling its task.

Fulfilling its mandate, the Working Group began hearing of witnesses on 17 July in New York. Afterwards it held meetings in Geneva, Beirut, Damascus, Amman and Cairo. In the course of the present investigating mission, a total of 99 persons provided the Group with oral information and with a large number of documentation relating to the question of violations of human rights of Arab civilian population by Israeli occupying authorities.

The Working Group was not able to visit the occupied territories, because the Government of Israel, in response to a request by the Group, stated that it was unable to consider the relevant resolution of The Human Rights Commission as constituting a basis for extending its co-operation to the Group.

The Group is scheduled to meet next on January 1970 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to begin preparation of the report on the results of its investigation. The Report, together with the Group's conclusions and recommendations, should be submitted to the next session of The Commission on Human Rights in 1970.

On 23 August, the last day of the Group stay in Cairo, it received testimony from 7 persons, including one man who was heard in Camera.

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Mrs. Samira El Shami, 33, Headmistress of the Secondary School in Gaza, told the Group the story of interference of the Israeli authorities in the educational activities in Gaza. She also spoke of the imprisonment of her husband, accused to be an officer in the Egyptian Army, and of humiliation and insults to which she was subjected by the Israeli military officials including the military Governor of Nablus, while she was trying to have her husband released.

Rabeia Ibrahim Sharif, 67, retired official from Gaza Strip; Abdalla El Matary, fisherman; Sheikh Hassan Ali Salem El Hersche, 70, farmer; Soleiman Moussa Ibrahim 37, trader; and Sheikh Nasser Salem Sallama presented their personal stories of suffering, humiliation and tortures under the Israeli occupation.

Abdalla El Matary stated that all the tortures to which he was subjected by Israeli soldiers, were "unbearable". Soleiman Moussa Ibrahim testified that he personally saw 17 houses, including his own, burnt to the ground in his village, while a school was destroyed and his shop was "completely looted". Nasser Salem Sallama said that out of 200 inhabitants in his village near Kantara, only 8 families remained there.

Ezzedin Fouad, professor at the Cairo University, gave a comparative analysis of the Israeli Security Regulations enforced in the occupied territories, and of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war. Quoting various provisions of the Israeli Security Regulations, the witness said that these provisions were in clear contravention with number of articles of the Geneva Convention. In particular, he said, one of the Israeli Security Regulations provided that no person should be allowed to communicate, "in writing or orally" with any other person,, if there was a reason to believe that this person was working on the side of the enemy. Thus, even the natural right of any human being to speak, was prohibited. The aim of the Israeli Security Regulations was annexation of the occupied territories and removal of the sovereignty over these territories from the original states, the witness concluded.

Nasr Sirry, 34, camel driver, said that when Israeli soldiers entered their village, they killed his brother and forced other people, including the witness's family, to leave the village. They walked through the Sinai desert for 7 days without water and food. They drank sea water and chew leaves of plants which happened to be on their way. As a result, his wife had no milk in her breasts to feed their small baby and the child died of starvation the witness said. His father, of 90 years, and his mother of 70 years, were left behind and he did not know anything about them.

Ismail Ahmad Zikry 36, customs officer in El Arish, described numerous beatings, with sticks, telephone wires for several hours each time, to which he was subjected during his 53 days imprisonment by Israel intelligence officers in El Arish. The food given to him was just enough to keep his life going on and as a result, he could not move and became "very thin", the witness said.

Other witnesses - Sheikh Mohammed Hammad, 48; Miss Maysara Mahmoud El Zirbawi, 18, student; Ismail Kamal El Hourani, 38, employee of the Education Department in El Arish told the Group similar stories of sufferings, insult, humiliation and murder, to which Arab civilian population was subjected in the occupied territories.

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لاغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.140/69 Beirut, 26 August 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP ON VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL-OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES HEARS 16 WITNESSES IN CAIRO

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israeli occupied territories, on Thursday 21 August, heard 16 persons at its two meetings.

Mohammed El Attar, former policeman in Gaza, said that dozens of houses in his zone were blown up by Israeli troops, sometimes even without an advance notice. So children and old people, who were slow in going out, perished under the debris of their dwellings. Under the curfew, impossed in the area after the 1967 war, everyone who dared to go out was immediately shot at, the witness declared. In this way a nine-month pregnant woman was killed on the spot by an Israeli patrol.

Discussing the matter of mass expulsion of people from their native villages and towns, the witness said that Israeli occupying authorities applied for this purpose various methods including cutting off water, food and gasoline supplies and closing of Mosques.

Mohammed Abdul Kader Derbas, 27, male nurse, said that in August 1967 he was subjected to "a great humiliation" in Haifa Hospital where he was castrated by an Israeli Doctor for a reason unknown to him. He was taken to the Hospital from the prison where his number was 52201. Medical records of the Hospital listed the operation done to him under number 131. He did not know the exact date of the operation because he was "completely unconscious" for a long time, the witness said.

After hearing the case, the Working Group decided to appoint a Doctor to examine the witness and submit a report to it.

The report read out at the afternnon meeting and signed by Mohammed Choucri, MD. United Nations examining physician, said in particular: examination of the supra public region and genitals showed "two bilateral inguinal faint scars as well as an old circatricial cautery scar" on the right side of the pubic region. "Penis is intact but the acrotal sac is empty of all its normal contents. A rounded scar of cautery is seen on the back of the calf muscle of the right leg", the report said.

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Mohammed Soleiman El Bik, former Director of Health in schools in El Arish Area, stated, in particular, that since the beginning of the occupation of the area, an increasing number of wounded patients were admitted daily to the El Arish Hospital, where there was a shortage of medical supplies and blood for transfustion. Doctors of the Hospital had no freedom of movements and even of action in their professional activities. Furthermore, Israeli authorities left only two ambulances for the entire area confiscating all other medical vehicles, he said.

Mousa Ali Mahmoud Kuneibi, 45, Police Officer, said that when Israeli troops occupied Gaza City, they arrested his 15 year old son and took him "in unknown direction". Afterwards, the whole of his family, including children, were made standing up against the wall for 7 hours, during which all members of the family were interrogated and searched. From time to time, Israeli soldiers opened fire above the heads of the families' members, who were not allowed to return to their house for 10 days. This "was not a unique case", the witness declared. He also spoke of destroying and looting of shops, restaurants and banks in the city by Israeli troops, which caused economic hardships for the population.

Hamdy Ali El Khalily 50, lawyer, stated that during the Israeli occupation of Sinai "everybody could see" that the Israeli authorities and military forces "flagrantly" violated all the international conventions and committdd"criminal acts" against civilian population. Describing his own imprisonment in February - March 1968, he said that his treatment as well as treatment of "hundreds" of other Arab detainees in Gaza Prison was "completely inhuman" and "a shame for The Twentieth Century".

Abdulla Gibril Abid, 37, teacher, said that he was arrested in the middle of June 1967 because he refused to collaborate with the occupying authorities. In Gaza Prison, he was subjected to repeated beatings and had several bones broken.Upon his release from the prison,due to the interference of the Red Cross representative, he found his house "completely empty" and prepared for dynamiting together with 19 other houses, he added.

The Group also heard Saadi Mohammed Ibrahim, 40, former official of Security Forces in Gaza Strip; and Abdel Melek Nahla, 45, former secretary to the Governor of Sinai.

Also on 23 August members of the Special Working Group of Experts, in their capacity as members of another Group of Experts on violations of human and trade union rights in Southern Africa - heard a witness on South Africa.

The witness, L.W.M. Thoti, 55, Vice President of the Unity Movement of South Africa, testified mainly on the subject of manifestation of racial discrimination and apartheid as existed in South African situation, as well as on the living conditions of Africans in the so called "native reserves" in South Africa.

The witness stated in particular that apartheid in South Africa, with all its racial oppression, had "its root in the economic exploitation of the black people'which took the form of"the wholesale use of forces, even slave-black labour".

The present situation was characterised by "intensification of forced labour techniques" through various legislative acts governing the entry and residence of black workers in towns; employment of African workers in the reserves; and their labour conditions and wages, he said.

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لأغراض وسائل الاعلام - ليست وثيقة رسمية

Press Release No.140/69 Beirut, 15 August 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP BEGAN ITS SESSION IN DAMASCUS

Miss Pierce, Copy to Chron. Tel. Aviv N.E. Dept. UK Miss N.Y. PCJ Mr Sanders

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in the Israel-occupied territories, began its two-day session in Damascus (Syria) on 13 August by hearing 6 witnesses at its afternoon meeting held in New Semiramis Hotel.

Before the meeting, members of the Group visited two refugee camps where Palestinian and Syrian refugees evicted from Golan hights are residing now. The Expert Body will continue hearing of witnesses at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday 14 August.

Mandate of Group

In establishing the Working Group in March 1969, the Commission on Human Rights authorized it to investigate the allegations concerning Israel's violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war, in the territories occupied by Israel as a result of hostilities in the Middle East.

Before arrival to Damascus, the Working Group heard three witnesses in New York, held consultation with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva and heard 14 witnesses in Beirut (Lebanon) on the matters within its mandate. From Damascus, the Expert Body on Friday 15 August will leave for Amman (Jordan), where it will have three-day session (16-18 August). Afterwards it will visit Cairo (United Arab Republic) for the same purpose of hearing witnesses and receiving other evidence.

Testimony by Witnesses

The first witness, heard on 13 August, Abdul Gani Shik, 46, School Headmaster, said that his village of Kishnyia was attacked by Israeli planes on 10 June 1967, after the cease-fire. The planes used Napalm bombs, and as a result, several houses were destroyed and several people, including his cousin, were wounded. When Israel troops entered the village the next day, they searched and looted nearly every house, the witness went on to say.

On 12 June Israel Commanding Officer ordered people to leave their houses within 15 minutes and evacuate the village. Since that time, the witness said, he had no information about his badly wounded cousin, who could not leave his house and he doubted "very much" whether his cousin was still alive.

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Radja Kubsi, 60, no occupation, informed the Group that a day after the end of the 1967 war, an Israeli patrol came into his house and made his two sons and their friend stand against the wall. The elder son was shot dead "in cool blood", while his friend was wounded. He himself was told to evacuate the house, and when he refused to do that, water and electricity supplies were cut off.

The next day another Israeli patrol entered his house and shot dead his sick son and the wounded friend of his son. Israeli soldiers, the witness added, searched his house and took away all the valuables. Afterwards he and the rest of his family left for Damascus.

Muhammed Djumaa El-Areur, 55, farmer, told the Group how the inhabitants of his village were intimidated by Israel occupying forces who opened machine-gun fire in the air before the crowd of villagers. The villagers were later ordered to evacuate their houses, and Israeli soldiers began looting them, taking away jewllery, radio-sets and so on.

Ibrahim Ghadjel, 65, farmer, described how his village was looted by "invaders" and how its inhabitants, including himself, were forced to evacuate their native place. In the middle of 1968, his village of Koneka was "deserted nearly completely", only two or three families left there, he said.

Mohammed Kasem Dawoud, 54, farmer, said that immediately after the occupation of his village of Pudaja, his wife was killed by sporadic fire. He went on to describe various methods of intimidation of the population by Israel occupying forces, including making them stand against the wall with arms behind the heads, making them dig trenches and stand in those trenches.

At last, the villagers were told either to leave their native place or they would be buried in the trenches, the witness said. When they refused to obey the order, Israeli soldiers shot dead in the presence of people six young men from the village, hostages taken earlier. Several youth were thrown by soldiers onto trucks and taken in unknown direction. After these events, which took place on 15 June, the inhabitants of the village were forced to evacuate it.

En route to Gaza they were escorted by military jeeps with machine-guns mounted on. Everyone, who delayed the movement of the column or dared to, was shot at. 7 or 8 persons were killed this way, the witness stated. He added that his village was demolished and that everything valuable was taken away.

The last witness, Mohammed Moheddin Slick, 40, Hairdresser, described various methods of intimidation and humiliation of Arabs by the Israeli occupying forces in his township. The methods included machine-gun fire above the heads of people, insulting and provocative questions, spitting on and beating of the people. The witness also testified on the matter of destruction and looting of property.

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Press Release No.141/69 Beirut, 18 August 1969

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Mr Sanders

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP CONCLUDES ITS SESSION IN DAMASCUS

The Special Working Group of Experts to investigate the alleged violations of human rights in Israel-occupied territories, on Thursday 14 August concluded its two day-session in Damascus (Syria) by hearing a total of 18 witnesses. Next morning it left by cars to Amman (Jordan) for the next leg of its investigating mission. The meetings in Amman will be held on 16-18 August; afterwards the Group will proceed to Cairo (UAR).

In the course of its two meetings on 14 August, the Group received testimony from 12 persons. The witnesses were: Muneef Ramadan; Ahmad Chaukat Chatti, President of the Syrian Red Crescent Society; Mrs.Ni'ima Mahmoud Saleh, 30, housewife; Nizar Bakdounes, 45, lawyer and chairman of the Syrian League of Human Rights; Hussein Khaled Mudjil, 60, no profession; Mahmoud Khairallah, 42, baker; Shukri Abdul Majid, 59, carpenter; Tayyin Ghazzi, 67, peasant; Adnan Bunni, director of Archeological Museums and Monuments; Husni Khattab, 53, former landlord; Ahmed Safar, 59, Mufti of Kuneitra; and Hafez Abu-Shkare, 53, Mukhtar (Mayor) of a village.

All witnesses furnished information either of their personal sufferings under Israeli occupation, or presented a general picture of the Israeli policy in the occupied territories.

Ahmad Chaukat Chatti stated that Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war was violated by Israel "several times in several ways". He mentioned in particular bombardment of villages, deportation of civilians, looting of property, setting up of 12 Israeli settlements and the torture of women - another "shocking" aspect of Israeli behavour in the occupied territories belonging to Syria. He said that a number of displaced persons varied between 50 thousand and 130 thousand. The looting of houses, the witness said, was being carried out regularly by Israeli soldiers who were syrian uniform. The photographs of the looters were later shown in the United States to prove that it were Arabs who looted houses.

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Mrs. Ni'ima Mahmoud Saleh said on 15 June 1967 Israeli patrols picked up 16 young men from the column of her villagers. Among them was her husband and 8 of her relatives. All 16 persons were shot dead before the eyes of other villagers. After that, Israeli soldiers searched women and took away all the articles of value-money, gold, jewellery, she added.

A similar story was told by Hussein Khaled Mudjil who lost 4 of his sons and wife killed by Israeli patrols "in cool blood" on 15 June 1967. The world public opinion should ask the Government of Israel for such criminal acts, the witness exclaimed.

Tayyin Ghazzi said that while being deported from their village of B'teha by Israeli soldiers " like cattle" the villagers were constantly intimidated and terrorized. Several people, including a woman, were shot dead en route to Syria, and he himself "had a misfortune to have a long talk" with an Israeli officer who got angry with the talk and kicked the witness breaking his leg.

Husni Khattab informed the Group of the ill-treatment to which he was subjected as a suspected prisoner of war. He said in particular that his shoulder was broken by rifle butt, while his leg was broken when he was thrown into a ditch. The witness also said that he and other prisoners were humiliated and insulted both en route to, and in the camp itself.

Hafez Abu-Shkare testified that on 13 June 1967 every inhabitant of his village was forced to leave the village. En route, the Israeli military escort picked up several young men and took them to Israel, while other people continued to move to the Syrian Border and were treated by the escort "like cattle". Two women from their column were shot dead for having delayed the movement, the witness said.

(UNIC)

Enclosure (36) to Mr Yeadon's Despatch No. 9.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS

OF

THE CHANCERY

(P.C.Sadgrove)

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
-4 SEP 1969
NET 18/4

BRITISH EMBASSY,
BEIRUT.

(38)

BRITISH EMBASSY,

BEIRUT.

(RESTRICTED)

3 September, 1969.

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
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NET 18/4.

Dear Appleyard,

Human Rights Working Group

Having sent you, Tel Aviv and the U.K.Mission, New York copies of the U.N. Information Centre's handouts on the meetings of the Group in the Lebanon (11 and 12 August) and Syria (13 and 14 August), we had not supposed anyone would be interested enough in this supreme example of the non-event to justify a formal report. However, I see from Tel Aviv's letter 18/15 of 15 August that we were mistaken. I therefore enclose a short note and some press cuttings.

Yours

John Sanders

(J.L.Y.Sanders)

Reg. Cuttings.

8/9

L.V.Appleyard Esq.,
Near Eastern Department,
F.C.O.

RESTRICTED

Human Rights Working Group

The Special Working Group of experts, set up by the Human Rights Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights in Israel occupied territories conducted its meetings in Beirut on 11 and 12 August. Only three members of the Group of six came to the Lebanon - Messrs. Boye, Ermacora and Jha.

The Group heard fourteen witnesses in Beirut, including two Americans heard in camera. It then went to Damascus where it held meetings on 13 and 14 August. Before its meetings in Beirut, the Group met Joseph Salem, the Lebanese Minister of Foreign Affairs. Late on 12 August the Group also met the Greek Catholic Patriarch, Cardinal Maximos V at his residence. Of those interviewed by the Group in Beirut, Mrs. Saab and the Greek Catholic Patriarch are well respected, sensible Lebanese personalities; most of the others interviewed were Palestinians or Jordanians. One of them, Emile Al Ghoury, is now a Minister in the Jordan Government and is well known as a spokesman for Haj Amin Al Hussain's Higher Arab Committee.

The visit was given reasonably prominent coverage in the Arabic and foreign language press in Beirut; the press as a whole supported the Group in its work, but coverage was somewhat limited by the fact that the visit occurred at the time of the Israeli raid on southern Lebanon. Perhaps for the same reason, there was little general public interest. There were even suggestions that the Lebanese had had difficulty in rounding up enough witnesses to make a show.

Reference.....

DAILY STAR 15 August.

Atrocities after Occupation

15/8/69

U.N. Group Hears Golan Heights Tale

DAMASCUS, August 14 (R) — A prominent Muslim religious figure, Sheikh Mohammed Safar told a U.N. working group Thursday that Israeli troops tortured and killed Arab citizens after they occupied the Golan Heights of Syria.

The Sheikh, Mufti of Kuneitra province alleged that the soldiers raped and killed a number of women at Jabbat Zeid village in the province.

He said all forms of torture were being brought to bear on the inhabitants of Kuneitra and other villages. Israeli soldiers also raped the Arab women, the Mufti said.

The three man working group touring the Middle East to investigate alleged Israeli violations of human rights in occupied territory.

Sheikh Mohammed Safar said the inhabitants of Kuneitra had endured looting, starvation of their children the wilful culting off of electricity and water supplies and the beating and torture of Civilians.

He strongly denied Israeli allegations that the inhabitants had the choice to leave their villages or stay. He said the villagers had been subjected to torture, pressure and all forms of threats to make them move.

The U.N. group leave for Amman Friday for further investigations. They then travel to Cairo before returning to New York where they will report to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights next February.

Earlier, during the group's last session, a five-minute documentary film prepared by the Syrian army was shown to the group. It showed alleged Israeli atrocities in the Golan Heights during the war, including napalm-burnt civilians.

Two representatives of the Syrian government presented memoranda with documents to the group alleging Israeli violation of education and archaeology in Israeli- occupied Arab territory.

Israel has refused to cooperate in the group's investigation.

In its first session earlier Thursday Dr. Shawkat Al-Shatti, president of the Syrian Red Crescent, told the U.N. working group here that the fate of scores of civilians in Syrian territory occupied by Israel in the June, 1967, war was still unknown.

The Syrian Red Crescent, Dr. Shatti said, asked the International Red Cross several times after the 1967 cease-fire to find out what happened to the missing Syrians. But no reply had been received.

Zuheir Bakdounes, president of the League for the Defense of Human Rights in Syria, said no more than 35,000 Syrians left the Golan Heights during the 1967 war — a quarter of the area's population, he said the number had increased during the six months following the cease-fire to 130,000 refugees. No more than 8,000 Syrians remained in the area, he added.

Bakdoumes said Israeli occupation authorities had set up more than 10 settlements and planned to build 22 others in the Golan area "after having destroyed hundreds of Syrian villages and forced their inhabitants to leave."

Other witnesses said Thursday they had left the Golan Heights after Israeli authorities had forced them to do so by torture and intimidation several days after the cease-fire.

The working group's secretariat Thursday received about 20 cables, notes and reports from various organizations listing alleged Israeli violations of human rights, demolition of homes and the stealing of antiquities.

In Amman an Arab tribal chief, who says he was deported by he Israeli authorities from the Gaza Strip to Jordan after being imprisoned and tortured, has expressed readiness to testify before a U.N. group investigating allegations of ill-treatment of Arabs in occupied areas.

Sheikh Mousa Abu Rashed, head of the Rawashda tribe, said in a statement published in the newspaper al-Dastour here Thursday, "I have a lot of facts and evidence to prove the massacres committed by Israeli authorities against Arab citizens in the Gaza Strip, and I am ready to place them before the human rights group."

Reference DAILY STAR 14 August

In Damascus

Human Rights Group Hears More of Israeli Atrocities

DAMASCUS Aug. 13 (Agencies)-A three-man U.N. Working Group Wednesday heard sworn testimonies of alleged torture, killing, eviction and starvation of Arabs in Israeli- occupied territory.

Six Syrian witnesses, from Kuneitra and other villages in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, told the group details of Israeli atrocities and violation of human rights in the occupied territory.

The six, out of a total of 30 witnesses who came forward to testify, told the group that they had left their villages as a result of pressure, intimidation and torture by Israeli occupation authorities six months or more after the cease-fire.

One of them, Mohammed Mohieddin Sliq, said Israeli authorities had forced more than 7,000 citizens of Kuneitra governorate to sign printed forms saying they had been well — treated by the Israeli--authorities before being allowed to leave their areas in batches.

The five other witnesses at the three-hour session spoke of acts of murder, violence and eviction by the Israeli authorities against them personally and against their relations and countrymen.

They told the committee the names of people, including women and children who were tortured to death.

The U.N. group arrived here earlier Wednesday from Beirut on a two-week tour of Arab countries to probe maltreatment of civilians in Arab territories occupied by Israel during the June 1967 war.

The group, from Senegal India and Austria will go to Jordan and Egypt, before returning to New York to report to the United Nations Commission on human right next February.

Syrian Foreign Minister Dr. Mustafa -Sayed will present to the group a note drawn up by the Syrian government expressing its viewpoint on Israeli violation of the Geneva Convention of 1949 on protection of civilians during war time.

After conferring with the Foreign Minister the group will meet the governor of Kuneitra, the area occupied by Israel.

He will explain how the inhabitants of Kuneitra were displaced and expelled, and will invite the group to visit refugee camps.

Thursday they will meet the director general of the Palestine refugee organization. More witnesses are to be heard in the evening.

Earlier Wednesday , the Committee ended its first round of investigations in Beirut by listening until late Tuesday night to the testimony of the Greek Catholic Patriarch Maximos V Hakim, at his summer residence in Ain Terez.

In his testimonial the patriarch pointed out that as head of the Greek Catholic mission in the Middle East his diocese includes Palestine. He said that in Palestine where he remained for six months after the occupation of Jerusalem in 1967, he was witness to the mistreatment of Arabs by the Israelis. He too received mistreatment from the Israelis. The patriarch said he could affirm that Arab rights were trampled upon, and Arabs were treated as second class. In his religious capacity, the Patriarch said, he mingled with the Arab people who all complained of mistreatment. After the 1967 occupation the Arabs were subjected to terrorism and brutal acts to free them to leave, he added.

As for the occupation of Jerusalem, he pointed out that the Greek Catholic Church had requested from the U.N. the maintenance of the city's former status. Its internationalization through the good offices of the Vatican was also sought.

Maximos V pointed out that on June 21, 1967, he met with the Israeli ambassador in the Vatican and discusses with him the internationalization of Jerusalem, and improving treatment of the Arabs. The Israeli ambassador replied "The Pope is mad and the United Nations cannot do anything , nor can the Pope... Our army is strong and we depend on it".

The patriarch then avert on to describe the destruction of Arab houses and the building of roads in their place; the forced evacuation of Arabs from their homes and the resisting of Jews in them in their stead; the eviction of Arabs and the banning of his person from entering Jerusalem; the desceration by Israelis of the Grand Mosque and the church of the Holy Sepulchre and the entrance into that church of an Israeli women in nothing but a bathing suit and with a dog.

The patriarch then outlined other numerous instances of Israeli violations of human rights in the occupied territories.

Reference DAILY STAR 13th August

Foreigners Testify against Israelis

Human Rights Hearings Concluded Here

Mrs. Nancy Abu-Haider, an American living in Beirut, said Tuesday Israeli authorities carried out wilful destruction of property and a concerted policy of himilating Arabs in the occupied Arab territories.

She was testifying before a special United Nations group, from Senegal, India and Austria, which is touring the Middle East to investigate alleged Israeli violations of human rights in occupied Arab territories.

The group, which concluded its two-day hearings Tuesday, heard four witnesses, three of them Americans.

Two of the Americans testified in private. Their names and evidence were not disclosed by the spokesman for the group.

The group leaves Wednesday for Damascus for further hearings, from there it will go to Jordan and Egypt before returning to New York to report to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights next February.

Mrs. Abu-Haider, wife of a Lebanese doctor, who was in Jerusalem until a week after the June, 1967, war, said there was utter lack of respect for any property of Arabs or of the United Nations.

"Nothing seemed to be safe from destruction, which was done wilfully. There was a great deal of looting going on for six week after the war had ended," Mrs. Abu-Haider, who visited Jerusalem again in July, 1967, added.

She said Israeli soldiers had exploded grenades to open the unlocked doors of an orphanage in Jerusalem which had been flying a Red Cross flag since 1948. They also fired submachineguns through the windows.

"Such wilful destruction also extended to pharmacies, doctors clinics, shops and offices," she added.

The group's chairman, Ibrahim Boye, of Senegal, asked her what she thought of the Israeli attitude in occupied Arab territories.

Mrs. Abu-Haider replied: "I believe they have no regard for the feelings or the physical presence of the Arabs."

She said there was a campaign by the Israeli authorities to make things intolerable for the Arabs.

A press release issued by the group Tuesday said that Ibrahim Al-Abed, a Palestinian student leader who testified Monday, had submitted a list of 32 persons who had been allegedly tortured in Israeli prisons and were ready to testify before the group.

One of the Americans who testified in secret was indetified as "Mrs. K.O." by Dr. George Dib, a Lebanese assistant professor of political science and international law at the Lebanese University here.

In his evidence Monday Dr. Dib had told the group that "Mrs. K.O.", an American living in Beirut, had seen the Israeli destruction of the entire village of Amwas in Latroun area, on the occupied West Bank of the River Jordan, during her visit to occupied areas in June and July, 1967.

Israel has refused to cooperate in the group's investigations.

Reference

U.N. Group Told about Atrocities By Israelis

A United Nations committee investigating the treatment of civilians in Arab territories occupied by Israel Monday heard testimony of torture, mass killings and genocide.

A witness read a report which detailed 17 methods of torture allegedly used by the Israelis on their Arab prisoners.

In listing Israeli violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention on the treatment of civilians in times of war, a section of the report claimed that in one case, 23 Arabs were summarily shot and buried in a mass grave dug by a bulldozer.

The committee headed by Ibrahim Boye, Senegal's permanent delegate at the United Nations, is undertaking its investigation under a resolution of the U.N. Human Rights Commission, to which it will submit its final report.

It will visit other Arab countries but not Israel, which has refused it permission to operate in the occupied territories unless it also examines the plight of Jews in Arab countries.

At its first working session here, the three-man committee heard sworn testimony by Dr. George Dib, professor of international law at the Lebanese University, who is also a research worker at the Palestine research council here.

Dib gave only the outlines of a documented report which will be submitted to the committee. He said it is based on first person accounts, third person testimony and published reports in Israel.

Out of 200 individual cases examined by his team, Dib said, 18 were rejected because of insufficient evidence. Five Americans who witnessed or had heard of some of the charges made in the report are willing to testify in secret before the committee, Dib said. He did not reveal their names.

Dib said wilful killing of Arabs by the Israelis "has been frequent throughout the occupation." He cited the case of 23 men shot dead near Rafah in Sinai three weeks after the 1967 war.

"A mine had exploded under an Israeli car, killing three soldiers," Dib said. "The Israelis rounded up 23 men, shot them and buried them in a mass grave dug by a bulldozer."

He cited cases of alleged eviction, deportation and the destruction of homes without compensation as acts violating the Geneva Convention.

(Continued on Page 2)

U.N.

"When these acts were brought to the attention of Israeli military governors, they said 'What is the Geneva Convention? We've never heard of it'" Dib said.

He asserted that his team had catalogued 17 methods of torture used by the Israelis.

Among these, he testified, were "the injection of solutions containing chemicals or nerve irritants, the pulling out of finger and toenails, flogging, electric shocks applied...to genitals and the rectum, beating with iron pipes, and the insertion of lighted candles in the nose."

In other cases, he stated, prisoners were locked up in cells with dogs trained to terrorize them, nitric acid was applied to their mouths and some were forced to walk barefoot over a fire.

Female prisoners were sometimes forced to parade naked in Israeli army barracks, Dib charged. The committee heard testimony about one Arab woman who was locked up "with Jewish prostitutes who beat her until she lost conciousness."

The committee is to hear a number of witnesses who allegedly underwent such treatment before being released by the Israelis.

One witness who appeared before the committee was Assad Abdel Rahman, a student at the American University of Beirut.

Abdel Rahman a Palestinian, was arrested in December 1967 as he was knocking at the door of a friend's house in Jerusalem.

During his interrogation by Israeli authorities, he testified, "I was beaten in expert Karate fashion" and clubbed with a stick. He was then taken to what he called a "torture camp" at Sarafand 40 minutes from Jerusalem, where he was led blindfolded "through trenches of stinking water."

Israeli guards fired close to his head "and I thought I had had it," Abdel Rahman told the committee.

But he was taken to a succession of Israeli jails and finally sentenced to one year's imprisonment by a military court in Ramallah.

A civil servant testified that he and his wife and children were deliberately attacked and bombed with napalm by an Israeli plane after the cease-fire in June 1967. One of his daughters died, he said.

As the plane came back for a look, said Sami Oueida: "We could clearly see the pilot laughing at us" he said there was no doubt the pilot knew they were civilians.

As Boye began to thank him, Oueida broke out tearfully "What have I done that I should lose my children, all my property, all my money. What has the United Nations done for me?"

Earlier Lebanon's Foreign Minister, Youssef Salem, conferred with the committee.

Salem said after the half-hour meeting that he had welcomed the group and urged it to be objective in its investigation.

He said in a statement: "We explained to members of the group that Israel has committed a violation of human rights in occupied Arab territory. We told them that we in Lebanon are in solidarity with Arab countries whose occupied territory has been subjected to Israeli violations, even though Lebanon has no Israeli-occupied territory."

Salem added: "We affirmed our adherence to the 1949 Geneva Convention which stipulates the civilians should not be harmed or tortured as a result of war."

Members of the group had assured him that they would take up all the issues he had raised.

Salem said the ministry would supply the group with documents on Israeli violations in occupied Arab territory. Witnesses would also appear before the group to tell of Israeli violations, he added.

NE (39)

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(18/5)

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 35 -9 SEP 1969
NET 18/4
NE 9.9.69

BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

5 September, 1969.

Mr. [illegible]
UN (Pol.)
N.A.D.

to see (39) and (38) in conjunction. (Their conclusions mostly agree....)

Dear John,

U.N. Human Rights Commission

We had hoped to learn more about the Egyptian attitude to the visit of the United Nations Human Rights Commission to Cairo from 19 to 24 August but little has come to light. Press coverage was slight.

2. According to the newspapers the Commission was presented with a 252 page report by the Arab League on alleged Israeli atrocities and received a note from the Afro-Asian Women's Federation. The Commission met the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Social Affairs: it took evidence from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from thirty individuals from Israeli occupied territory. On 22 August the Commission visited evacuees from Sinai and Gaza in a refugee camp in Tahrir province.

(5)

3. The B.B.C. correspondent Roland Challis who accompanied the Commission as the guest of the Arab League (Strachan's letter 18/13 of 22 August to Tripp refers), and who has attended almost every session of the Commission, thinks that the accumulated total of evidence against the Israelis is very/strong he is convinced that much of it could go to prove Israeli violation of the Geneva Convention. In his conversation with us also he has expressed his misgivings over the B.B.C's failure to broadcast his reports. Challis is a hard headed correspondent of some experience and with no special axe to grind after only a few months in the Arab world.

4. I am sending copies of this letter to Chanceries at Amman, Beirut, Tel Aviv, UKMIS New York, and Washington and to the Consulate-General at Jerusalem.

Yours ever,
Patrick

(P. J. L. Popplewell)

J. W. D. Gray, Esq.,
North African Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London, S.W. 1.

CONFIDENTIAL

1. M. Mackintosh
2. enter

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UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
845 Third Avenue, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

136 12/1

Resend Copies of this letter to
UN(PoL)
N.E.D.

18/59/28

11 September, 1969

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 6
15 SEP 1969
UM 16/24

Dear John.

Special Committee on Israeli-Occupied Territories

26

Would you please refer to Tony Parsons' letter of 25 June to John Lambert reporting that the Peruvian Vice-President at the Twenty-third session of the General Assembly had been chosen to carry out the task in paragraph 2 of General Assembly Resolution 2443 (XXIII).

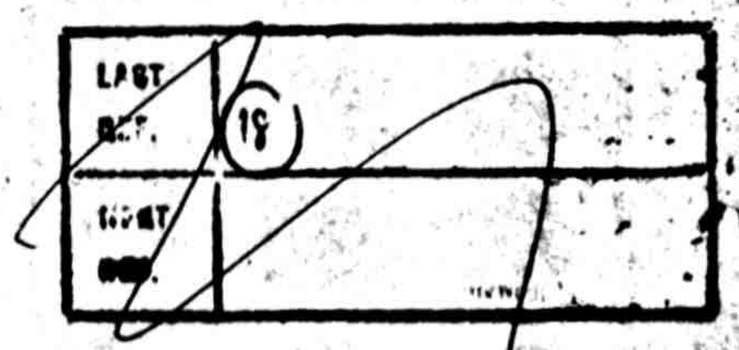
2. We understand that the Secretary-General has been urging the Peruvians to try to establish the Special Committee before the next session of the Assembly begins and preferably before he issues the Introduction to his Annual Report, which is expected any day now. The Secretary-General clearly wants to be able to report to the Assembly that, even if they have done nothing, at least the members of the Committee have been appointed. You will recall that Dr. Arenales had confined his immediate field of choice to those who abstained on resolution 2443 (our telegram No. 35 of 13 January) and, so far as we know, by the time of his death he had succeeded only in obtaining the services of the Philippines. When the Peruvians took over, we understand the Philippines "tendered their resignation," so that the Acting President would not have his freedom of manoeuvre restricted. At the same time, it looks as though the Arabs may have suggested to the Peruvians that the field of possible candidates should be widened to include those who voted in favour of Resolution 2443. In any event, we have now learned that the Peruvians have obtained the agreementof the Yugoslavs and the Ceylonese to serve on the Committee. The third member is likely to be an African; Burundi or Congo (Brazzaville) have been mentioned. All four delegations were among those voting in favour of the Resolution.

NR

3. It is of course somewhat damaging to Arab prestige that it has taken since the end of the last session of the General Assembly to establish the membership of the Special Committee, assuming the process is completed shortly. Meanwhile, the Special Working Group of Experts appointed under Resolution 6 (XXV) of the Human Rights Commission, has been carrying out an investigation into allegations of Israeli violations of the 1949 Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. (My letter of

/10 March

W.J.A. Wilberforce, Esq.,
United Nations (E & S) Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London, S.W.1.



CONFIDENTIAL

pa 25/9

) March from Geneva). As you will know, this Group visited Beirut, Damascus, Amman and Cairo between 11 and 23 August and heard about 100 witnesses. They are due to draw up their report in January, in time for presentation to the next session of the Human Rights Commission. In view of this, it remains to be seen whether the Arabs will attempt to follow up Resolution 2443 at the coming Assembly. There are those among them who consider that there are two courses of action open. The first would be to recognise that action under Resolution 2443 has, to all intents and purposes, been superseded by what has been done by the Special Working Group of Experts. On this argument the Arabs would accept that there was no need to press for the full implementation of Resolution 2443, e.g. by the Special Committee of Three making its own trip to Arab capitals next year. The second course would be that the terms of reference of the Special Committee of Three should be transferred to the Special Working Group of Experts whose mandate would be extended for a further year by the Human Rights/at its next session in February/March, 1970. It could be argued by the Arabs that the investigation decided upon in operative paragraph 1 of Resolution 2443 is wider than that so far undertaken by the Special Working Group of Experts and that there was still scope for further action. Procedurally it is expected that any report by the Secretary-General pursuant to Resolution 2443 will be made under Item 60 (Implementation of the Recommendations of the Tehran Conference), which is due to be allocated to the Third Committee.

mission

4. We will keep you informed of any developments.

Yours ever.
Derek Milton

(D. F. Milton)

copied to:

Miss Warburton, U.N.(Political)Dept.

Chanceries:
Washington,
Cairo
Amman
Beirut
Tel Aviv
Lima.

NEAR EASTERN

40

Mr Lamport

25.9

Mr. Mackins

C&M

Mr Adams 18/9

With the compliments of

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

D P. R. MACMILLAN ESQ

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LONDON, S.W.1

15 SEPTEMBER 1969

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TOP COPY

(41)

EN CLAIR

ROUTINE UKMISSION NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 2048 29 SEPTEMBER 1969
UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TELEGRAM NUMBER 2048 OF 29 SEPTEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND SAVING TO WASHINGTON PARIS MOSCOW HOLY SEE.

CIVILIANS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

IN A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (DOCUMENT S/9456 OF 26 SEPTEMBER) THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JORDAN TAKES UP, ON INSTRUCTIONS, THE QUESTION OF ALLEGED INTIMIDATION OF JORDANIAN CIVILIANS IN HEBRON AND BEIT SAHOUR (NEAR BETHLEHEM), AND STATES THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WAS NOT ALLOWED RECENTLY TO ENTER BEIT SAHOUR. HE CLAIMED THAT ISRAELI ACTIONS THERE CONSTITUTED VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENEVA CONVENTIONS.

2.1 EXTRACTS FROM EL-FARRA'S LETTER ARE AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE '' IN THE TOWNS OF AL-KHALIL (HEBRON) AND OF BEIT SAHOUR ADJACENT TO BETHLEHEM, THE CITIZENS HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO DIFFERENT KINDS OF INTIMIDATION, ECONOMIC STRANGULATION, ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND TORTURE. BOTH TOWNS HAVE BEEN UNDER A STATE OF ISRAELI MILITARY SEIGE REMINISCENT OF MEDIEVAL AGES .....

THE ISRAELI OCCUPYING AUTHORITIES HAVE ORDERED THE CLOSURE OF THE CENTRAL MARKET WHERE VEGETABLES, FRUITS, MEAT AND OTHER MATERIALS ARE TRANSACTED AS WELL AS THE POULTRY AND CLOTHES MARKETS. '' UNQUOTE /QUOTE

P.a J 1.10.

QUOTE '' THEY (THE ISRAELI ARMY) ARRESTED INHABITANTS, TOOK OFF THEIR CLOTHES AND LEFT THEM NAKED UNDER THE SOARING HEAT OF THE SUN. OTHERS WERE FORCIBLY DEPORTED TO THE EAST BANK OF JORDAN. HOUSES WERE DYNAMITED AND BLOWN UP WITH ALL THE FURNITURE THEREIN. THE CITY OF AL-KHALIL AND ITS DISTRICT WERE CUT FROM THE REST OF JORDANIAN CENTRES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORY. EVEN MEDICAL MATERIALS COULD NOT BE CARRIED TO THE CITY.'' UNQUOTE

QUOTE'' THE TOWN (BEIT SAHOUR) HAS BEEN UNDER A STATE OF SIEGE SINCE 29 AUGUST AND THE CURFEW LASTS 22 HOURS A DAY. INHABITANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO GO OUT OF THEIR HOUSES. ISRAEL'S ARMY PLANT BOMBS AND EXPLODE THEM AT NIGHT TO TERRORIZE THE INHABITANTS. THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ISRAELI PAPER, THE JERUSALEM POST OF 21 SEPTEMBER 1969, REPORTED THAT : QUOTE...THE NEW REGULATIONS SEEMED TO BE THE STRICTEST YET IMPOSED ON A WEST BANK TOWN SINCE THE SIX DAY WAR UNQUOTE.

A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WAS NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE TOWN. THE ATTEMPTS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HOLY SEE TO GO INTO THE TOWN AND LISTEN TO THE COMPLAINTS OF ITS INHABITANTS HAVE ALSO FAILED. HE TOO WAS NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER THE TOWN.'' UNQUOTE

FCO PASS AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND SAVING TO PARIS MOSCOW HOLY SEE.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

FCO/WH DISTRIBUTION
N.E.D.

CYPHER/CAT A

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 110 2 OCT 1969
NET 18/4

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(+2)

PRIORITY JERUSALEM TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 146 30 SEPTEMBER 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

TOP COPY

ADDRESSED TO FCO. TELEGRAM NUMBER 146 OF 30 SEPTEMBER
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION PRIORITY TO UKMIS NEW YORK,
ROUTINE TO AMMAN, BEIRUT, CAIRO, TEL AVIV
AND SAVING TO WASHINGTON, PARIS, MOSCOW, HOLY SEE.
UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO. 2948 TO YOU:- 41
CIVILIANS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE WELL FOUNDED. THE MEASURES HAVE OF COURSE BEEN TAKEN AFTER TERRORIST INCIDENTS, BUT CONSTITUTE COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENTS IN APPARENT CONTRAVENTION OF THE CONVENTIONS QUOTED.
2. THE BEIT SAHOUR CURFEW, WHICH APPLIES TO A PART OF THE TOWN AND AN ADJACENT AREA OF SIX SQUARE MILES, WAS IMPOSED AFTER KATYUSHA ROCKETS WERE FIRED FROM THE AREA ON 25 AUGUST. THE OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE WAS TO FORCE THE INHABITANTS TO GIVE INFORMATION. IT IS INDEED AS SEVERE AS STATED AND NOW IN ITS FIFTH WEEK. THE FIELD OF THE SHEPHERDS, A CHRISTIAN HOLY SITE UNDER THE CARE OF THE Y M C A, IS IN THE AREA AFFECTED.
3. TRADE RESTRICTIONS AMOUNTING TO A BLOCKADE WERE IMPOSED IN HEBRON ON 19 SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING A NUMBER OF MINOR TERRORIST INCIDENTS INCLUDING AN INEFFECTIVE GRENADE ATTACK ON THE MILITARY GOVERNOR. AMONGST OTHER THINGS THE GRAPE HARVEST WILL BE LOST UNLESS TRANSPORT RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED VERY SOON.
4. THERE HAVE BEEN SCHOOL DISTURBANCES IN NABLUS AND JENIN IN PROTEST OF FIVE ALLEGED LEADERS WERE DEPORTED TO THE EAST BANK ON 29 SEPTEMBER. TWO HEBRONITES WERE DEPORTED ON 16 SEPTEMBER.

F C O PASS PRIORITY TO UKMIS NEW YORK, ROUTINE TO BEIRUT, CAIRO AND TEL AVIV AND SAVING TO WASHINGTON, ~~8-48~~, PARIS, MOSCOW AND HOLY SEE.

MR. LEWEN [REPEATED AS REQUESTED]
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Pa 6.10.

(43)

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En Clair

PRIORITY JERUSALEM TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
-1 OCT 1969
NET 18/4

Tel No.147 1 October 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

Addressed to FCO telegram No.147 of 1 October, repeated for information to U.K. Mission New York, Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Tel Aviv, Washington, Paris, Moscow, Holy See

-42-

My telegram No.146. [Civilians in Occupied Territories].

Curfew on Beit Sahur has now been lifted.

Mr. Lewen

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Near Eastern Dept

Pag 6.10

&&&&&

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(44)

EN CLAIR
PRIORITY JERUSALEM
TELEGRAM NO. 157

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
3 OCTOBER 1969

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY OFFICE
-6 OCT 1969
NET 18/4

UNCLASSIFIED

Addressed to Foreign and Commonwealth Office telegram number 151 of 3 October repeated for information to UKMIS New York, Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Tel Aviv, Washington, Paris, Moscow and Holy See.

(42)

My telegram number 146. Trade restrictions on Hebron have also been lifted from today.

MR. LEWEN

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N.E.D.

P-G J 8.10

EN CLAIR
PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NO. 1819 15 SEPTEMBER 1969.

(45)

ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 1819 DATED 15 SEPTEMBER, 1969, REPEATED FOR INFORMATION SAVING TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV, AND LIMA.

MILTON'S LETTER 18/59/28 OF 11 SEPTEMBER TO WILBERFORCE.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS NOW ISSUED A NOTE (A/7495/ADD.3) IN WHICH HE REPORTS THAT DR. ALVARADO (PERU) HAS INFORMED HIM THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF CEYLON, SOMALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA HAVE AGREED TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THREE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII).
TEXT OF NOTE FOLLOWS BY BAG TO F.C.O.

F.C.O. PLEASE PASS SAVING TO CAIRO AMMAN BEIRUT TEL AVIV AND LIMA.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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NY/UN 1819
of 15 Sept
f. 130

UM 16/24 f

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference NET 18/4

(46)

Mr. Tripp

Mr. Wilberforce (U.N. (E. and S.) Dept.)

Mr. Nason (U.N (Pol) Dept.)

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No.
21 OCT 1969
NET 18/4

Special Committee on the Israeli Occupied Territories

When Mr. Ruppin (the Minister at the Israeli Embassy) called on you yesterday he discussed the negotiations now going on in New York to find three members for the Special Committee on the Israeli occupied territories, set up under Resolution 2443.

2. I understand that Mr. Ruppin objected to the attempts being made to staff the Committee with representatives from Yugoslavia and Somalia (with whom the Israelis have no diplomatic relations), but that he expressed no objection to the election of Ceylon to the Committee. We have not previously heard of Somalia being mentioned as a candidate, but no doubt the President is busy canvassing most of the African Missions (see Milton's letter to Wilberforce on 11 September).

Flag A

3. I believe that Mr. Ruppin suggested that we should not simply abstain on any Resolution tabled about the composition of the Committee (we abstained on Resolution 2443), but should vote against it. No doubt the Israelis are making similar approaches in other capitals. No Resolution has so far been put forward and on past form this may take some time. I suggest that we should simply take note of Mr. Ruppin's representations and wait to see what kind of Resolution (if any) is finally put forward.

L.V. Appleyard.

(L.V. Appleyard)
16 October 1969

Mr. Milton's letter of 11 Sept. was followed by the Mission's Tel. no. 1819 of 15 Sept., reporting that the composition of the Committee had been settled. (That tel., of which I attach a copy, was distributed to NE Dept. but evidently not placed in the file; it is odd that Mr. Ruppin too should have been unaware of its content.)

I do not see that any question of a resolution on the composition of the Committee arises.

NOA Wilkinson

The Committee has been appointed. The Lords might 20.X delay its appointment as long as they could. Clearly their Lordships have not been told of the result, or he. Ruggles forgot (which I doubt).

JPWilson 20/10

Mr Tripp again (to see minutes)

JR 24.10

pla 27/10

Registry No. NE
DEPARTMENT

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	PRIORITY MARKINGS
~~Top Secret~~ ~~Secret~~ ~~Confidential~~ Restricted ~~Unclassified~~	~~Flash~~ Immediate } * ~~Priority~~ Routine

PRIVACY MARKING
~~In Confidence~~

~~En Clair~~. ~~Code~~ Cypher

Draft Telegram to:—
UKMIS NY
No. 1608
(Date) 19/11

And to:—

Repeat to:—
~~Washington~~
Cairo
Amman
Beirut
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XX

* Date and time (G.M.T.) telegram should reach addressee(s) 1400Z 19.11.69

(Date) 19/11

Despatched 1143

CYPHER

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[Security classification —if any]

[Privacy marking —if any]

[Codeword—if any]

Addressed to UKMIS NEW YORK

telegram No. 1608 (date) 19/11 NET K/4

And to

repeated for information to Washington Cairo Amman Tel Aviv Jerusalem Beirut

Saving to

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 20 NOV 1969 N 10

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 ON NOV 1969

Your tel No. 2628: Human Rights in the Israel-occupied Territories

We agree ~~that you should abstain if there is a snap vote but should~~ with the course of action proposed in para. 3 of your tel. under reference. You should abstain if there is a snap vote on the draft resolution.

90.3
18-11.

(47)

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CYPHER/CAT A

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TO UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NO 1608 19 NOVEMBER 1969 (NE)

RESTRICTED.
ADDRESSED TO UKMIS NEW YORK TELEGRAM NO. 1608 OF 19 NOVEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM, BEIRUT.

YOUR TEL. NO. 2628: HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ISRAEL-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

WE AGREE WITH THE COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED IN PARA. 3. OF YOUR TEL. UNDER REFERENCE. YOU SHOULD ABSTAIN IF THERE IS A SNAP VOTE ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION.

STEWART

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(48)

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 20 NOV 1969

NET 18/4

CYPHER/CAT A

IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO. 2653. 19 NOVEMBER, 1969.

RESTRICTED

ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 2653 OF 19 NOVEMBER
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

FOR ATTENTION FIRST THING THURSDAY MORNING - 20 NOVEMBER.

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 1608:

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ENVISAGED IN MY TELEGRAM NO. 2628 HAS NOW BEEN TABLED BY THE SPONSORS (L.1739). IT HAS NOT YET BEEN INTRODUCED AND MEANWHILE THE SPONSORS HAVE MODIFIED THEIR ORIGINAL TEXT IN THE HOPE OF SECURING WIDER SUPPORT. THE TEXT AS IT STANDS AT PRESENT IS IN M.I.F.T. DESPITE THE IMPROVEMENTS WE STILL CONSIDER THAT WE SHOULD ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE. IT IS, IN EFFECT, A FOLLOW UP OF RESOLUTION 2443 AND THIS IS NOT THE ONLY RESOLUTION CITED IN THE TEXT ON WHICH WE ABSTAINED. WE CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD BE GOING TOO FAR TO CONDEMN ISRAEL, AS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 WOULD DO, ON THE STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE SO FAR PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE. THERE IS ALSO THE POINT THAT, AS WITH RESOLUTION 2443, THE PRESENT TEXT WOULD ALSO CUT ACROSS THE ACTION INITIATED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN ITS RESOLUTION 259 (1968).

2. AT THE WESTERN GROUP MEETING TODAY THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE DELEGATIONS STATED THAT THEY EXPECTED TO ABSTAIN ON THE ORIGINAL TEXT. THOSE TO WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN SINCE DO NOT EXPECT TO ALTER THEIR POSITION AS A RESULT OF THE AMENDMENTS NOW MADE.

/THE AMERICANS

RESTRICTED

Draft tel. sent for despatch
Pdf 20.11.

THE AMERICANS ARE AT PRESENT UNDECIDED WHETHER TO ABSTAIN OR VOTE AGAINST. IT IS LIKELY THAT SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS OUTSIDE THE WESTERN GROUP WILL ABSTAIN ALSO: THE NUMBER OF NEGATIVE VOTES WILL PROBABLY BE SMALL.

3. IN THE EVENT OF SEPARATE VOTES ON THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS WE WOULD PROPOSE TO VOTE IN FAVOUR OF OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 AND TO ABSTAIN ON THE REMAINDER. THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IS EXPECTED TO COME TO A VOTE TOMORROW AND WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. THE MINISTER OF STATE HAS NOT SEEN THIS TELEGRAM. IF HE HAS ANY COMMENTS WE WILL TELEPHONE IN THE MORNING.

F.C.O. PASS PRIORITY TO CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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EN CLAIR

IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO 2654 19 NOVEMBER 1969.

UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
20 NOV 1969
NET 19/4

ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 2654 DATED 19 NOVEMBER, 1969,

REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO ~~WASHINGTON~~, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV. JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

M.I.P.T.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE.

BEGINS:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949 RELEVANT TO THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN TIMES OF WAR, AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL DECALRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS,

RECALLING THE HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, ESPECIALLY RESOLUTIONS 237 (1967), AND 259 (1968) ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, RESOLUTIONS 6 (XXIV) AND 6 (XXV) ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, UNESCO AND WHO,

FURTHER RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS 2252 (ES-V), 2443 (XXIII) AND 2524 (XXIII),

CONCERNED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THESE RESOLUTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES,

GRAVELY ALARMED BY FRESH REPORTS OF COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENTS, MASS IMPRISONMENT, INDISCRIMINATE DESTRUCTION OF HOMES AND OTHER ACTS OF OPPRESSION AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL,

/ 1. REAFFIRMS

PJ 24.4

1. REAFFIRMS ITS RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL:
2. EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN AT THE CONTINUOUS REPORTS OF VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THOSE TERRITORIES:
3. CONDEMNS THE POLICY AND PRACTICE OF COLLECTIVE AND AREA PUNISHMENT, THE DESTRUCTION OF HOMES, AND THE DEPORTATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE ARAB-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:
4. URGENTLY CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO DESIST FORTHWITH FROM ITS REPRESSIVE PRACTICES AND POLICIES TOWARDS THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND TO COMPLY WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:
5. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER ITS RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII) TO TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RESOLUTION.

F.C.O. PLEASE PASS PRIORITY TO CAIRO AMMAN TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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50

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CYPHER/CAT -A-

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TO UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1616 20 NOVEMBER 1969
(NED)

CONFIDENTIAL.
ADDRESSED TO UKMIS NEW YORK TELEGRAM NUMBER 1616 OF 20 NOVEMBER
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV,
JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

-48

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 2653:

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL - OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

ALTHOUGH THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE OF INFRINGEMENTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IS INTEMPERATELY WORDED AND LARGELY BASED ON UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS.

2. WE AGREE, THEREFORE, THAT YOU SHOULD ABSTAIN ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE. IN THE EVENT OF A PARAGRAPH VOTE WE SHOULD PREFER YOU TO ABSTAIN ON ALL PARAGRAPHS, INCLUDING OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2.

STEWART

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24 NOV 1969
NET 18/4

* Date and time (G.M.T.) telegram should reach addressee(s) 1400 Z, 20.11.69.

(Date) 20th

Despatched 1230

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	PRIORITY MARKINGS
~~Top Secret~~ ~~Secret~~ Confidential ~~Restricted~~ ~~Unclassified~~	~~Flash~~ ~~Immediate~~ ~~Priority~~ ~~Routine~~

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CONFIDENTIAL

PRIVACY MARKING

~~In Confidence~~

[*Security classification —if any*]

[*Privacy marking —if any*]

~~En Clair~~.
~~Code~~
Cypher

[*Codeword—if any*]

Addressed to UKMIS NEW YORK

telegram No. 1616. *(date)* 20 Nov.

And to

repeated for information to WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

Saving to

Draft Telegram to:—
UKMIS NEW YORK
No. 1616
(Date) 20/11
And to:—

Repeat to:—
WASHINGTON
CAIRO
AMMAN
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XX

Your telegram No. 2653: Human Rights in Israel - Occupied Territories.

Although there is some evidence of infringements of human rights in the occupied territories, the draft resolution is intemperately worded and largely based on unsubstantiated reports. [~~Although We do not wish to go out of our way to offend the Arabs, but we are also anxious, particularly at the present time, to avoid unnecessarily antagonising the Israelis.~~]

2. We agree, therefore, that you should abstain on the draft resolution as a whole. In the event of a paragraph vote we should prefer you to abstain on all ~~paragraphs, parts~~ including operative paragraph 2, [~~provided that in doing so you would not be getting out of step with the majority of your western colleagues.~~]

20/11

20/11

20.11.

11557 20/11/2

UN (EDS) concur
Arnold 20.11.69.

REGISTRY No. 10
21 NOV 1969
NET 18/4

(51)

CYPHER/CAT A CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE TEL AVIV TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

TELEGRAM NUMBER 811. 20TH NOVEMBER 1969.

C O N F I D E N T I A L.

ADDRESSED TO FCO TEL NO 811 DATE 20 NOVEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION IMMEDIATE TO U K MIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON,CAIRO, AMMAN,JERUSALEM,BEIRUT.

U.K. MIS,NEW YORK TELEGRAM NO. 2653 : HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

AS YOU WILL KNOW FROM MY TELEGRAM NO. 806 (NOT TO ALL) OUR VOTES IN THE UNITED NATIONS AT PRESENT STILL AROUSE GREAT SENSITIVITY HERE. WHILE THEREFORE I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT WE PROPOSE TO ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE, I SHOULD HOPE IF IT IS NOT TOO LATE THAT WE SHOULD NOT VOTE IN FAVOUR OF OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2. A VOTE IN FAVOUR OF THIS PARAGRAPH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INTERPRETED HERE AS A

PRE-JUDGEMENT OF THE ISSUE AND A PARTISAN STANCE,AND MIGHT WELL ATTRACT MORE ATTENTION THEAN THE ABSTENTION ON THE WHOLE RESOLUTION,PARTICULARLY IF THE AMERICANS VOTED AGAINST.

FCO PASS IMMEDIATE TO U K MIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON,CAIRO, AMMAN,JERUSALEM,BEIRUT.

MR. BARNES

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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Received after the despatch of the tel. at (50) P.M. 20.11.

REGISTRY No. 10
NET 18/4

52

EN CLAIR

PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NO. 2658. 20 NOVEMBER, 1969.

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR COPY

ADDRESSED TUO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 2658 OF 20 NOVEMBER
REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 1616: HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SUBJECT TO MINOR AMENDMENTS TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 5 AND A MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONE TO PARAGRAPH 4 THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN MY TELEGRAM NO. 2654 WAS ADOPTED IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE ON 20 NOVEMBER BY 51 (INCLUDING CYPRUS, RREECE, SPAIN, TURKEY) - 11 (ISRAEL, BOLIVIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, URUGUAY, DAHOMEY, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, RWANDA AND SWAZILAND) - 50 (U.K., U.S., FRANCE AND OTHER WESTERN DELEGATIONS, LATIN AMERICANS AND A NUMBER OF AFRO-ASIANS). OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF 3, SOMALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA VOTED IN FAVOUR AND CEYLON WAS ABSENT. THE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION AS ADOPTED IN IN M.I.F.T. FULL DETAILS OF THE VOTING BY BAG.

2. SEPARATE VOTES WERE TAKEN, AT NIGER'S REQUEST, ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 5. THESE WERE RETAINED BY 51 - 6 - 49 (UK) AND 47 - 10 (US) - 44 (UK) RESPECTIVELY. THERE WAS NO SEPARATE VOTE ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 (TEL AVIV TELEGRAM NO. 811 REFERS).

3. THE RESULT OF THE VOTE IS SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2443 (MY TELEGRAM NO. 3120 OF 6 DECEMBER 1968 REFERS). IT SHOULD BE NOTED HOWEVER THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES IN FAVOUR WAS FOUR LESS THAN LAST YEAR.

4. IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTERWARDS ARCHER (UK) SAID THAT WE WERE CONCERNED WITH VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

/EVERYWHERE

P.A.J. 20.11

EVERYWHERE AND CONSIDERED THAT ALLEGATIONS APPEARING TO HAVE ANY SUBSTANCE SHOULD BE IMPARTIALLY INVESTIGATED. IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE HAD SUPPORTED SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 259 (1968) AND THE COUNCIL WAS STILL SEIZED OF THE MATTER. WE HAD BEEN VERY CONCERNED WITH THE ORIGINAL TEXT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION (MY TELEGRAM NO. 2628) AND WERE GRATEFUL THEREFORE FOR THE MODIFICATIONS WHICH THE SPONSORS HAD MADE. NEVERTHELESS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4 OF THE RESOLUTION AS ADOPTED TENDED TO TREAT AS ESTABLISHED FACTS ALLEGATIONS WHICH REQUIRED INVESTIGATION. WE STILL HOPED THAT A METHOD OF INVESTIGATION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES COULD BE ARRANGED. IN VIEW OF OUR CONCERN FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS EVERYWHERE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WE SUPPORTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT IN PARAGRAPH 74 OF THE INTRODUCTION TO HIS ANNUAL REPORT AND HOPED THAT THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO LEAVE A COUNTRY WOULD ALSO BE RESPECTED IN SO FAR AS JEWS IN ARAB COUNTRIES WERE CONCERNED.

F.C.O. PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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EN CLAIR
PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NO. 2659 20 NOVEMBER 1969
UNCLASSIFIED
ADDRESSED TO F.C.O. TELEGRAM NO. 2659 OF 20 NOVEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

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RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
21 NOV 1969
NET 18/4

MY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING TELEGRAM:
HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION ADOPTED: BEGINS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949 RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN TIMES IF WAR, AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS,

RECALLING THE HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, ESPECIALLY RESOLUTIONS 237 (1967), AND 259 (1968) ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, RESOLUTIONS 6 (XXIV) AND 6 (XXV) ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, UNESCO AND WHO,

FURTHER RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS 2252 (ES-V), 2443 (XXIII) AND 2452 (XXIII),

CONCERNED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THESE RESOLUTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES,

GRAVELY ALARMED BY FRESH REPORTS OF COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENTS, MASS IMPRISONMENT, INDISCRIMINATE DESTRUCTION OF HOMES AND OTHER ACTS OF OPPRESSION AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL,

1. REAFFIRMS

P.a A 26.11.

1. REAFFIRMS ITS RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL;

2. EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN AT THE CONTINUING REPORTS OF VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THOSE TERRITORIES;

3. CONDEMNS SUCH POLICIES AND PRACTICES AS COLLECTIVE AND AREA PUNISHMENT, THE DESTRUCTION OF HOMES, AND THE DEPORTATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES;

4. URGENTLY CALLS UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO DESIST FORTHWITH FROM ITS REPORTED REPRESSIVE PRACTICES AND POLICIES TOWARDS THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND TO COMPLY WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS;

5. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER ITS RESOLUTION 2443 (XXIII) TO TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION.

ENDS

F.C.O. PASS CAIRO, AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.
LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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U.N.D.

Mr. Ingg 10.11. N.E.D. to see ENTER E4
See p.5. I don't think this is quite what Messrs. Rugg & Tagger had in p.5. Mr Marshall ... 18 Mr. Arnold 21
mind; but I think honour is satisfied!

UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
845 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
- 3 DEC 1969
NET 18/4

Speech by Mr. Peter K. Archer, M.P.
in the Third Committee

12 November 1969

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
(Agenda items 55, 56, and 57) No. 58

Madam Chairman,

We have just completed our work on a Declaration embodying aspirations in the field of social development which are common to the peoples of the United Nations, the people whom we are privileged to represent. We hope that it will provide a pattern at which our Governments will aim, and a yard stick against which to measure their achievements. It is not by any means the first such Declaration which owes its existence to the work of this Committee. If it is adopted by the General Assembly, it will take its place with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and a number of similar documents, as a recital of those standards which we all accept when they are formulated, but of which we lose sight all too often when they are concealed among the complicated facts and emotions of a specific situation.

Now, Madam Chairman, we are considering an item which in a sense measures the effectiveness of drafting Declarations, for we are discussing together some of the instances where particular governments, particular societies, have been less than mindful of those standards. There are many reasons why these rules may be infringed. Sometimes a government sets out quite deliberately to impose tyranny upon all or some of its subjects, because it does not even pretend to a concern for rights which are recognised by the civilised world. Such is the attitude of the Republic of South Africa. Sometimes an infringement occurs because a government simply does not care enough to prevent it. Sometimes it happens because a busy official, charged with implementing an important and necessary policy, is confronted with a person, or a group of persons, whom he considers to be unreasonable or uncooperative or because his attention is distracted to the more dramatic aspects of the political conflict. It happens not because he renounces the Universal Declaration, not even because he does not care, but because, at that moment, in that situation, he does not recognise an infringement for what it is.

But in all these instances, a person, a family, a group, is denied rights to which we believe they are entitled, and in the process human bodies are broken, human minds are scarred, human lives are ruined; "Little Guys" who cannot speak for themselves, and beg us to speak for them.

Some are the heroes and heroines of resistance movements. Some are ordinary, unheroic, undistinguished people, who want nothing but to live out their lives unmolested. Some are downright unpleasant and unreasonable. They are entitled to our intercession not because we choose them as friends; not because they look, or behave, or think like us; not because they agree with our opinions; but because they are human beings. That, Madam Chairman, is surely what Human Rights are about. Perhaps the great test of our belief in Human Rights is our concern for the rights of our enemies.

/Of course,

Of course, we must respect those matters essentially within domestic jurisdiction, which are protected by Article 2 (7) of the Charter. But my delegation cannot believe that a consistent pattern of violations of Human Rights, contrary to the international obligations undertaken by all member states under Article 56 of the Charter, is a matter of domestic jurisdiction. The United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs explained our position on this point when he spoke in the general debate on 14 October, 1968. He said, "Article 56 of the Charter makes it clear that no country can say that the human rights of its citizens are an exclusively domestic matter. A country that denies its citizens the basic human rights is by virtue of Article 56 in breach of an international obligation". Not only is there the obligation under the Charter, Madam Chairman, but a pattern of subsequent international practice set out in this series of United Nations instruments, beginning with the Universal Declaration, surely indicates that all countries who are members of this body undertake to observe certain standards of respect for Human Rights. My delegation does not believe that when the oppressed cry out, the civilised world must turn away, indifferent or impotent. And surely there are not many of us who would wish to conceal our activities from the international community.

But when responsibility for these matters is laid upon this Committee, I believe that we are confronted with a number of difficulties. First, time is so short. We cannot accord to any single instance the attention and understanding which it demands. Secondly, we represent our respective governments, and we cannot fail to have an eye to the political consequences of our actions. However we examine our consciences, we cannot be certain that our words, and our votes are directed solely to succouring those of whom we speak, and not to the implication of our proceedings in other arenas. Perhaps worse, we are each of us inclined to believe, if reference is made to an infringement of Human Rights in our own country, that the motivation is political, and not one which we should take seriously.

Thirdly, we have each of us come to this Committee with strong personal views about the particular infringements which we believe should be rectified, and we are all tempted to regard other infringements as of minor importance. In particular, we are all more conscious of one another's shortcomings than of our own. There are, of course, certain situations in which the number of victims involved, or the nature of the infringement, or the declared indifference of a government to what we here regard as the very essence of justice and decency, lend an additional emphasis to our indignation. It is not surprising - indeed it is entirely right - that the situation in Southern Africa earns a high proportion of our attention. We endorse what was said yesterday on the subject of apartheid by the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia and today by the distinguished delegate of Poland. And I am sure that the Committee will not misunderstand if I say that it does not follow that other infringements are without importance, that tyranny elsewhere is to be ignored, that those who cry out in other areas and for other causes must cry in vain.

As the distinguished delegate for Finland said a few moments ago, it may be that one of the most effective contributions we can make to the implementation of the standards we have formulated, is to direct our minds to the establishment of machinery, acceptable to all our governments, which is not shackled in these ways; which can devote more time to its investigations, its consultations and discussions, which is not tainted with political motivations, real or alleged, and which is less tempted than we are to approach its problems with pre-conceived ideas for what is required of it.

/Of course,

Of course, Madam Chairman, any procedure for mitigating human suffering may occasionally embarrass the governments whom we represent. Sparing our governments' embarrassment is not necessarily first on our list of priorities and I cannot resist at this stage repeating a story which was told to a close friend of mine by an official of a government represented here. The official said one day we received a letter alleging that a certain man was in prison for political reasons. Of course, he said, we threw it away and he said a few weeks later we received another letter about the same man, and remembering the earlier letter, we read it and then we threw it away. Then, he said, there must have been an article in a newspaper or some kind of campaign because we had a number of letters and then the number got bigger and in the end we felt that we couldn't throw them away because someone might ask what had become of them. And so we had to open a file on them and, then he said, if you have the letters on a file you have to send some kind of answer, and so we had to draft an answer and we referred the matter to a more eminent official, and he said well if we have to draft an answer perhaps we should find out whether this man is in prison and if so, why? And he said we asked the Ministry of Justice to investigate the matter. They made enquiries and they found out that he was in prison. He was there because they had forgotten he was there. And he said, of course we released him.

Madam Chairman, I repeat this story, not with the purpose of casting blame at bureaucracies. We cannot expect higher standards from governments than we observe ourselves and I am the last individual who is entitled to blame anyone for being forgetful or bad-tempered or fond of having his own way. The problem is not how to apportion blame but how to ensure that these things do not happen.

I would suggest for the consideration of the Committee, and for the governments represented here, five possibilities which, my delegation believes, merit further thought, and on which we would welcome the comments of other delegations, though we do not suggest that the Committee can arrive at any clear conclusions upon them in the course of this debate.

First, we believe that valuable experience might be gained, and an atmosphere of mutual confidence developed, if governments were, as early as they feel able, to ratify the International Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and to consider making use by progressive stages, of the machinery of implementation for which they provide.

Secondly, with the distinguished delegate from Norway, we believe that the United Nations should establish some procedure for dealing with individual communications alleging violations of Human Rights. Of the 14,000 communications to which he referred, no doubt many relate to grievances which exist only in the imagination of the writers; many others probably relate to matters which our Organisation has no power to investigate. But while there remains the possibility that some represent a cri de coeur from those who have suffered a real injustice falling within the terms of the Charter or of other human rights instruments, and who have no-one else to whom they can turn for help, my delegation would be reluctant to conclude that the door on which they knock is to remain closed. For this reason the United Kingdom delegation at the last session of the Commission on Human Rights supported the proposal of the Sub-Commission for a new method of dealing with communications. We are sorry that it has not yet been approved by the Economic and Social Council. We strongly support this proposal, limited and modest as it is, to establish some machinery for examining complaints by individuals who put their trust in what we say about human rights.

/THERE IS

There is another aspect to this problem which has been exemplified by recent events. The Secretary-General has recently found it necessary to inform Information Centres of the United Nations that they should no longer accept communications addressed to him by private individuals and organisations. We recogni[illegible] with sympathy the difficulties with which the Secretary-General is confronted. But we share the concern expressed yesterday by the distinguished Ambassador for Norway that the closing of channels of communication may prove a serious obstacle in certain situations to those with something important to say about human rights. Public opinion in the United Kingdom is exercised that an Organisation whose Charter begins with the words "We the peoples" may be insulated from the voice of some of those peoples.

Thirdly, Madam Chairman, there is the proposal to establish the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to which the distinguished delegate for Uruguay referred on Monday and which forms the subject matter of a later item on our agenda. This is not the occasion to comment upon the proposal, except to say that it is a further suggestion for the kind of limited, informal procedure which may afford some assistance to those whom we exist to help, without publicly embarrassing the governments concerned.

Fourthly, we may be able to offer some encouragement, both as a Committee and by commendation to our individual governments, to the establishment of regional machinery for the protection of Human Rights. Sometimes it is possible to make quicker progress in particular directions among the countries of a specific region, though this should not imply any derogation from general international obligations.

The Committee will no doubt be aware of the arrangements which exist under the European Convention on Human Rights and of some of the achievements which they have made possible. The work of the Council in the human rights field was recognised by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in an address to the Council's Parliamentary body, on 3 May 1966. He said then, "The pioneering aspects of the work of the Council of Europe are of particular interest to those of us who work in global organisations, for if those ideas can be made to work in one part of the world it may be easier to apply them progressively to the affairs of the world as a whole". I read, too, with profit and pleasure, the Report submitted by the Organisation of American States to the International Conference on Human Rights in 1968, setting out the steps already taken within their Organisation, and the further proposals under discussion, and my delegation is watching with interest the present discussions now, I think, taking place in Costa Rica. We have noted with interest the seminar on the question of establishing regional human rights commissions held in Cairo in September, and the possibility which this may have opened up of the creation of such a commission in Africa. The League of Arab States also has its own machinery, in the form, I believe, of the Permanent Arab Commission on Human Rights. There may now be scope for creating similar institutions in other areas.

/Fifthly,

Fifthly, we would commend the great contribution made to the implementation of our recommendations by many non-governmental ~~associations~~ organisations, whether they are concerned with Human Rights in general, such as the World Federation of United Nations Associations and the International League for the Rights of Man; with particular aspects of Human Rights, such as Amnesty International or the Anti-Slavery Society; or with Human Rights in particular areas of the world, such as the Africa Bureau, the Anti-Apartheid Movement, and the Defence and Aid Fund for victims of repressive legislation in South Africa. My delegation believes that any action which can be taken either by the United Nations or by individual governments to facilitate their work, will demonstrate our support, and that of the peoples whom we represent, for the cause of human rights. And I cannot allow this moment to pass without a tribute to the work of the Human Rights Division under its distinguished Director.

But for the moment, Madam Chairman, it is this Committee which bears the responsibility of considering these problems. We have noted the reference by the distinguished delegate of the United States to the tragic evidence which exists that men and women are in prison in certain areas not for what they have done, but for the opinions which they have ventured to express. We who, in this Committee, are free to speak without fear, sometimes find it difficult to understand what it is like for those who are deprived of that right.

We noted, too, the distinguished delegate's remarks about the application of the 1949 Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War in North Vietnam and elsewhere. We hope that, whatever the political merits of the tragic conflicts which are now taking place in various regions, questions which, happily, are not for this Committee to debate, Governments, including of course the authorities in North Vietnam, will regard it as their responsibility to ensure that those individuals who are caught up in these situations are not subjected to suffering which can be avoided. Political conflicts necessarily result in personal tragedies. But it does not follow that the victims should be abandoned without some attempt to spare them such additional privations as can be avoided by a little sympathy.

Lady Gaitskell, my predecessor in this chair, spoke last year of the unhappy conflict in the Middle East. In a statement on 2 December she said: "The situation in the Middle East is another which gives cause for concern to those working for the promotion and protection of human rights. We sincerely hope that the circumstances which have given rise to this concern will change and bring about a situation in which all the people living there are able to realise their basic rights to the fullest possible extent." Madam Chairman, the passing of another year has not diminished the concern which my delegation feels on this matter. There have been further developments in the area which have endangered the basic rights of individuals on both sides, rights which to us in the comfort of this chamber sometimes appear only as debating points. My delegation would simply extend its sympathy to all the peoples of the Middle East.

There are other situations, Madam Chairman, in which some indication from this Committee may serve to remind a Government of a situation which it may have overlooked, and in consequence may change the lives of at least a few individuals. One such is the question of slavery. I know of no legal system which does not prohibit this inhuman institution, and I do not believe that any government deliberately countenances its exercise. But there is all to convincing a body of evidence that, in many areas, practices tantamount to slavery continue to exist. There is evidence that in certain areas, families afflicted by extreme poverty permit their children to be technically "adopted" by a more affluent family, on payment of what is in effect a sale

price. There is evidence that in some areas a form of marriage, together with the payment of a bride-price, virtually reduce many women to a condition of slavery. There is evidence in more than one area of sheer chattel slavery, in which men are sold for the equivalent of $200, and women for rather more.

Sometimes, what is required is financial assistance to alleviate the economic conditions which give rise to these practices. My delegation has noted the frank and disturbing statement made to the Sub-Commission at its last session by the Secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society, and we would add our tribute to those governments which, frankly and honestly admitting the existence of the problem within their territories, are seeking a solution.

Delegates will be aware that the Economic and Social Council has been seeking methods of establishing machinery to assist governments in implementing the two Slavery Conventions of 1926 and 1956, in a spirit not of criticism, but of providing material and expert assistance. We would like to suggest that the implementation of these two Conventions might be made one of the social objectives for the Second Development Decade. Meanwhile we hope that the idea of establishing a committee of experts, which was proposed in the Economic and Social Council in 1966, will be re-examined in the new study of implementation measures being carried out for the Sub-Commission by Dr. Awad of the United Arab Republic. We would also suggest that this study might include a detailed examination of the techniques at present used internationally in the control of narcotics and the protection of refugees, with a view to establishing whether any of these techniques may be adapted for use in the field of slavery. We welcome Dr. Awad's preliminary report to the last session of the Sub-Commission and we await with interest his final report.

Another question, to which reference was made by the distinguished delegate from Norway, is that of indigenous peoples whose ways of life are not readily adaptable to modern social and technological development, whose health is susceptible to forms of infection to which we are now inured, and whose environment is in process of a transformation which leaves them bewildered and helpless.

It is a matter to which the international community has already devoted some attention. The I.L.O. in 1957 adopted Convention No. 107, concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-Tribal Populations in Independent Countries. This Convention is a comprehensive document and embodies detailed provisions concerning the sort of policies which governments might adopt. And references have already been made in this debate to the valuable interim report of Mr. Santa Cruz, which contains an important chapter on Measures Taken in Connection with the Protection of Indigenous Peoples. We hope that this study will lead to suggestions about further measures which may be required, at the national as well as the international level, to tackle the special problems of indigenous peoples. My delegation pays tribute to the Canadian Government for the comprehensive policy statement which it has issued this year on the complicated question of ensuring the rights of the Indian community in Canada. I recall, too, the contribution to the problems of multi-national societies made by the seminar in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, in 1965, the success of which owed so much to the informed and enthusiastic Chairmanship of Minister Anton Vratusa.

Many governments are already considering carefully how these peoples can be integrated into developing societies, or developed societies in process of change, without subjecting them to the risk of social disintegration, or physical extinction. A similar problem arises in connection with nomadic peoples, and gypsies, and the Council of Europe has recently conducted a survey into this problem, with its implications for so many gentle and talented peoples.

/In the

In the United Kingdom Parliament, a group has recently been established of those Members who are particularly concerned that something should be done while there is yet time, and if any distinguished delegates were minded to carry home with them the suggestion that similar groups might be formed in other national parliaments, we would add our gratitude to that which would undoubtedly be earned from those who benefit.

Madam Chairman, a further situation which distresses my delegation, not least because we recognise the personal concern for human rights of the distinguished members of the Soviet delegation, is the evidence contained in the appeal of 20th May, addressed to the Secretary-General by a group of Soviet citizens, the disturbing contents of which my delegation has read. It was a step which they must have taken only with reluctance, and after great heart-searching.

It was deeply worrying to read in that document, after reference to many arrests of those who had expressed opinions contrary to official views, these words in paragraph 25:

> "We also wish to call your attention to a particularly inhuman form of persecution; the commitment of normal people to psychiatric hospitals because of their political convictions."

But it was even more worrying to read a further appeal of the 26th of September, which records that of those who signed the earlier one, two had in fact been confined to psychiatric hospitals and three had been arrested; and we have since received reports that five have lost their jobs, and one, a student, has been denied his degree.

Madam Chairman, I say this in no spirit of hostility. I appreciate that those who feel strongly committed to a particular political system may come to feel that those who differ are so clearly in error that they require correction. It is difficult to combine commitment with tolerance. But it is not impossible.

My delegation hopes that we may see our discussion as one in which we cooperate to consider how some of these situations may be set right. An eminent journalist to whom I spoke recently said of the Third Committee that we do not often make news, but we may be making history. We cannot rectify the major political tragedies which blight so many lives. But we can together make a real if a modest contribution towards the creation of a world in which ordinary people are given a break, in which they can breathe freely, can work and play, marry and rear their children, pursue their ambitions and take their rest, free from being pushed around, and free from fear of tomorrow.

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With the compliments of

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

LONDON, S.W.1

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC
26, SOUTH STREET, LONDON, W.1

No. 2/ 27th November, 1969.

The Embassy of the United Arab Republic presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to bring to its notice that the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee of the U.N. General Assembly has passed a resolution condemning Israeli atrocities in the occupied territory which it considers a violation of the Geneva Convention. Many countries condemn this aggression, including the United States of America, by a statement made by the official spokesman of the State Department of the U.S.A. on 22nd November. Even in the newspapers here articles were published by C. E. Hodgkins and ~~Colin Legum~~ David Leitch about the atrocities in the occupied territories, which can be proved by documents in their possession.

It would be appreciated if the Government of the United Kingdom could reconsider its position towards that Resolution which will be put forward at the General Assembly.

The Embassy of the United Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurance of its highest consideration.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
LONDON, W.1.

With the Compliments
of the
Embassy of the United Arab Republic.

Dr. Kamal M. Hagras
Counseller

1 photo copy for Dr HAGRAS

CHE-ORIENT

Le département d'Etat américain condamne le dynamitage des habitations arabes dans les territoires occupés

Le département d'Etat américain a qualifié, vendredi de « violation » de la convention de Genève sur la protection des populations civiles le récent dynamitage par les israéliens d'habitations arabes près de la ville [illegible] d'Hébron.

Le porte-parole du département d'Etat, M. Carl Bastch, a rappelé à ce propos qu'Israël avait souscrit à la convention de Genève « qui interdit spécifiquement les représailles collectives ». Il a déploré la violation de cette convention et exprimé l'espoir que toutes les actions [illegible] Hébron seront conformes aux principes de ce document, et notamment au respect du droit à la défense dont [illegible] doivent jouir.

Le [illegible] ces derniers jours sur le front du canal de Suez a été marqué samedi matin. Selon un porte-parole israélien, un groupe de soldats égyptiens a traversé tôt dans la matinée le canal de Suez et a attaqué au bazooka une [illegible] israélienne. Les [illegible] ont, selon [illegible] été [illegible] sur [illegible] ont regagné [illegible] sans [illegible] subir de pertes. [illegible] un [illegible] israélien [illegible] a été [illegible] au cours de cet [illegible]

A Haïfa, la police israélienne a arrêté samedi matin sept Arabes à la suite du tir aux roquettes effectué [illegible] sur la raffinerie [illegible]. Il [illegible] a causé [illegible] des dégâts insignifiants aux installations pétrolières du port. Un porte-parole de l'organisation [illegible] a [illegible] que cet attentat avait été commis « afin de prouver que toutes les arrestations collectives auxquelles [illegible] la population arabe d'Israël, et spécialement parmi les ouvriers du port, sont des actes arbitraires, et que les détenus israéliens arabes ne sont que des personnes innocentes ».

La presse israélienne, pour sa part, considère comme un fait certain la participation d'Arabes israéliens aux activités d'El Fath. Elle affirme, toutefois, que ce fait ne doit en rien influencer les bonnes relations entre la majorité juive du pays et la communauté arabe israélienne. Une détérioration de ces relations ne servirait [illegible] qu'aux organisations palestiniennes, soulignent les journaux. Dans cet esprit, la police de Saint-Jean-d'Acre avait pris, lundi, après l'annonce du démantèlement d'un réseau arabe israélien dans cette ville, de sévères mesures pour [illegible] des heurts entre les populations [illegible] arrêté d'autre part que l'épouse juive d'un [illegible] parmi les personnes [illegible], alors que deux jeunes Israéliens [illegible] arrêtés à Kfar-Saba, près de Tel-Aviv, pour avoir vendu trois [illegible] de fabrication israélienne à certains de leurs compatriotes d'origine arabe.

Enfin, le journal « Al Ahram » annonce samedi matin que d'importantes consultations ont eu lieu au cours de la semaine entre Le Caire et Moscou au sujet des conversations égypto-soviétiques [illegible] devaient se dérouler prochainement à Moscou. Kriestin. « Al Ahram » [illegible] précise que la date de la délégation égyptienne pour Moscou, [illegible] dépendant [illegible] tenant compte [illegible] du maréchal [illegible] ministre soviétique [illegible] du jour [illegible] président turc, M. Cevdet Sunay. — (A.F.P., A.P.)

CHYPRE

DÉMISSION DE M. CLERIDES

Représentant chypriote grec aux négociations intercommunautaires

Nicosie, (A.F.P.) — Une crise politique vient d'éclater à Chypre, à la suite de la décision prise par M. Glafcos Clerides, président de la Chambre, de démissionner de son poste de représentant chypriote grec aux négociations intercommunautaires qu'il a menées pendant plusieurs mois avec le leader chypriote [illegible]

(56)

M Talmud

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Rice

When the U.A.R. Ambassador came to see me about other matters today, he referred to a talk which his Counsellor had had with you about the Third Committee item on alleged Israeli atrocities in the occupied territories. He hoped that the United Kingdom could reconsider its attitude about abstention when the subject was raised in the U.N. Assembly itself. He mentioned in particular your comment that the U.K. needed to have "judicial" proof in cases of this kind. I replied that we obviously needed proof of any such allegations whether it was judicial or not. However, I said that I would take note of what he said.

(P.J. Haymon)
26 November, 1969.

Copies to: Mr. Tripp ✓
Mr. Speares
Mr. Lambert

CONFIDENTIAL

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EN CLAIR

PRIORITY UKMISSION NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3025 11 DECEMBER 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TELEGRAM NUMBER 3025 OF 11 DECEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON CAIRO AMMAN TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

-52-

MY TELEGRAM NO. 2658: HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE ON 20 NOVEMBER WAS APPROVED IN PLENARY ON 11 DECEMBER BY 52-13 (ISRAEL BOLIVIA, DAHOMAY, ECUADOR, GABON, GAMBIA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, RWANDA, SWAZILAND AND URUGUAY) - 49 (U.K. U.S. FRANCE). FULL DETAILS OF VOTE FOLLOW BY BAG.

FCO PASS CAIRO AMMAN TEL AVIV JERUSALEM AND BEIRUT.

LORD CARADON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

FILES:

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P.A 16.12

(LAST PAPER)

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COPY

SAVING TELEGRAM

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
(United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations)

By Bag

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY 10 DEC 1969
NET 18|4.

No. 389 Saving

15 December, 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

Addressed to Foreign and Commonwealth Office telegram No. 389 Saving of 15 December, repeated for information Saving to Washington, Cairo, Amman, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Beirut.

My telegram No. 3025.

Item 57: Violations of Human Rights - Israeli Occupied Territories

The part of the report of the Third Committee (A/7826) containing the draft resolution on the occupied territories adopted by the Third Committee on 20 November was taken in plenary on 11 December (verbatim record in A/PV.1829).

2. The draft resolution was adopted by 52 (Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussia, Cambodia, China, Congo (B), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Rumania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, USSR, UAR, Tanzania, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia) - 13 (Israel, Bolivia, Dahomey, Ecuador, Gabon, Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda, Swaziland and Uruguay) -49 (U.K., Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo (K), Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Phillipines, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, U.S., Upper Volta, Venezuela). Ceylon was one of the twelve delegations absent from the vote. The resolution is entitled "Respect for and Implementation of Human Rights in Occupied Territories" and is No. 2546 (XXIV).

Explanations of Vote

3. Israel said that the resolution was unacceptable to their government. They pointed out that it had received fewer votes than resolution 2443; that it had been adopted on a minority vote; that it was partisan in failing to deal with the plight of Jews in Arab countries; that the occupied territories were open to anyone

/ who chose

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who chose to visit them, and that the resolution prejudged the work of the Special Committee of Three, which was itself an illegally constituted body.

4. Kuwait, in reply to Israel, said that the charge of one-sidedness made no sense since the resolution dealt with occupied territories and the only such territories were those occupied by Israel; that only one tenth of the membership had voted against the resolution: and that information provided to the Special Political Committee by the Commissioner-General of UNWRA about Israeli actions against UNWRA personnel and property confirmed that the resolution adopted was based on facts.

5. Malawi, before the vote, spoke at some length about the unbalanced nature of the resolution in not dealing with all the human rights problems arising from the June 1967 War.

6. Maldives said that they had reservations on paragraph 3, particularly in so far as it related to paragraph 5. Their vote in favour of the resolution was not to be regarded as pre-judging the findings of the Special Committee of Three.

Lord Caradon

F I L E S
NR. EAST. D.
U.N.D.

Israel: Human Rights: Special Committee On Israeli Occupied Territories. Human Rights Commission And The Problem Of Jews In Iraq, United Arab Republic And Syria. 15 Dec. 1969. MS Middle East Online: Iraq, 1914-1974: Selected files from series AIR, CAB, CO, FCO, FO, PREM, T, WO, The National Archives, Kew, UK FCO 17/977. Newspaper Cutting. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107510063/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=9405c57d&pg=1. Accessed 11 Apr. 2022.